

Fall: Dementia Patient Left Alone.

A private-duty sitter hired by the family to sit through the night with a ninety year-old in a nursing home left the bedside only momentarily to dispose of trash after cleaning up his diarrhea.

The bed rails reportedly were left down. The patient got up, fell, hit his head and soon died from a subdural hematoma. The jury in the Circuit Court, Palm Beach County, Florida awarded unspecified damages from the sitter's agency. **Dubin v. United Nursing Services, 2007 WL 4954007 (Cir. Ct. Palm Beach Co., Florida, December 7, 2007).**