

## **Emergency Room: No Record Of Cardiac Complaints, Suit Dismissed.**

**T**he forty year-old patient had a fatal heart attack in the hospital after he was admitted for fluid replacement following a serious gastric upset at home.

The jury in the Circuit Court, Collier County, Florida ruled the hospital E.R. personnel were not guilty of negligence.

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***The family's attorney reportedly brought to court one of the hospital's emergency-room intake forms filled out to show complaints of cardiac symptoms.***

***However, it could not be substantiated that the intake form was actually filled out that day by the patient in the emergency room.***

CIRCUIT COURT, COLLIER COUNTY  
FLORIDA  
April 1, 2008

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The actual E.R. record revealed no complaints of chest pains or other indications of cardiac involvement and a thorough assessment of the patient's abdominal distress.

Family members who were with him that day could not corroborate that the patient complained of chest pains when he arrived in the emergency room.

The patient reportedly first went to a different hospital but decided not to stay there because the wait was too long.

At the second hospital, where he ultimately died, he told the people in the emergency room that he had just left another hospital and driven almost a half hour to get to their hospital, conduct anyone would see as inconsistent with a patient having chest pains from a heart attack. ***Hughes v. Hamann, 2008 WL 4210686 (Cir. Ct. Collier Co., Florida, April 1, 2008).***