

Labor And Delivery: Nurses Did Not Advocate For The Patient.

Shoulder dystocia was encountered during the delivery, but the obstetrician reportedly insisted the nurses continue to apply fundal pressure.

The child was born with a brachial plexus injury which has resulted in complete loss of biceps muscle function in the affected arm.

The lawsuit filed in the Circuit Court, Covington County, Alabama resulted in a \$700,000 settlement.

Had the case gone to trial, the nursing expert retained to testify on behalf of the mother and child was prepared to testify that it is below the standard of care for a nurse to continue to apply fundal pressure after shoulder dystocia has been encountered during the delivery.

Further, in the patients' expert's opinion, labor and delivery nurses have the duty at that point to advocate with the physician for a different course of action. **Powell v. Community Hosp., 2009 WL 1874340 (Cir. Ct. Covington Co., Alabama, April 23, 2009).**