

## Whistleblower: Nurse May Have Right To Sue.

The Court of Appeals of Kentucky did not resolve the case one way or the other, except to say that the lower court should not have ruled summarily in favor of an RN's former employer, a long-term care facility, in the RN's employment dispute, without giving the RN her day in court to present her evidence and her arguments to the jury as to the real reason she was fired.

### **Employer Retaliation**

A healthcare employer cannot fire a nurse for doing his or her legal, ethical and moral duty to advocate for a patient by complaining, as in this case, that the physician should have been called for a nursing-home resident who needed medical care.

### **Abusive, Disruptive Behavior**

On the other hand, regardless of the underlying issues, an employer can expect a nurse to act professionally toward his or her co-workers by refraining from abusive, discourteous and confrontational behaviors. **Vanhook v. Britthaven, 2007 WL 2142691 (Ky. App, July 27, 2007).**