

I have audio and email exchanges that I do not feel comfortable sharing openly as I fear for my mother's safety.

Saturday, I was at the facility when officers showed up. Another resident's family member stated she heard a resident was found deceased with a bag over their head.

Sunday, I called the local police department to confirm what I was told and the officer said the incident is being investigated as a homicide. He did not misuse his words because he also stated he is unable to discuss the situation because they are investigating it as a Homicide. I then confirmed again that this is the same place my mother is located.

I then shared with him my concerns and that I have a camera under the law and what was happening to me over my camera being in the room. The officer was unaware an actual law existed.

I contacted the local news anchor - Kevin Landers - from 10tv and he responded telling me nothing happened and someone just died.

I know what was stated on the phone or I would not have said anything. Since I do not have the name of the officer who answered after 8pm on Sunday, I have no verifiable proof yet it was clear something did indeed happen.

Most of these people, where my mother is, are very frail. They don't have much physical strength at all. Something is not right. And given Nursing Homes don't want cameras in every single room, people are lying and can get away with even murder.

Care facilities have way too much power. After what I have been through with my mother, I do not trust any of them or this situation that occurred Saturday. I have been on the receiving end of how far they are willing to go to protect themselves. And my mother is destroyed because of 3 nursing homes in 3½ years, If the current one is 5-star by Medicare.gov, what will a 1-4 star do to her? So no, I do not trust any of them at all.

But I have no way to care for her at home and I have no place safe to move her. The facility has received a citation regarding food concerns in January 2024 and I am awaiting the results for a lot that happened in March. CMS is also keeping an eye out for the report.

Nursing homes, and any facility that handles vulnerable individuals, need to be made safe as a whole. No more putting band aids on a severely broken system. The problems are extensive and mainly starts with leadership. No standard of care, no accountability equals harmful behaviors.

I have a camera under Esther's Law as the law is written and they were fighting me on it until I told them I was going to obtain a lawyer and file a harassment complaint. They backed off the camera issue. 2 days later I received an email that my camera fell off the wall.

I replaced my camera within 24 hours. Since the event that occurred Saturday evening with the deceased resident, they are being cooperative by only contacting me in a professional manner.

So I am not opposed to yet another law, but please add an amendment for which department has jurisdiction to enforce this law. Too many people are having issues with what is in place. There are a lot of people who need help and unable to get help.

This includes - "WHO is legally able to enforce the law"? because currently no one knows.

- The ombudsman cannot enforce anything regarding any laws.
- The Department of Health says unless it is a health related violation, there is nothing they can do.
- The police are unaware there is a camera law in place.

Yet, Esther's Law is a state law. The way the law is now, those that try to utilize the law, are having issues where we cannot get anyone to make a facility adhere to a state law. Why?

Again, I do not oppose what Representative Carruthers is trying to do. But it would be helpful to create an amendment for enforcing the law after it is in place. To ensure protection for people like my mother and others that are being neglected, abused, and medically harmed regardless of their age and location.

Attorneys aren't even able to hold facilities accountable because there are too many laws protecting facility owners instead of the vulnerable people they promised to care for. What happened to Cindy Ayotte's mother is appalling. What is continuing to happen to my mother is disgusting and all protection for Nursing homes is allowed. Why?

If things were different and there were better facilities with good staff and responsible individuals working in them, my mother would not have stage 4 ulcerated bed wound the size of a softball and Osteomyelitis in her tailbone, she wouldn't be being starved to death, she wouldn't be vulnerable to choking to death and more. Much has been caught on my camera yet no accountability.