6512 Eberle Drive

Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Plaintiff

v.

DONALD E. GARLAND, M.D. 3700 Fleet Street, Suite 200 Baltimore, Maryland 21224

and

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY MEDICAL CENTER, INC.

n/k/a JOHNS HOPKINS BAYVIEW

MEDICAL CENTER, INC.

4940 Eastern Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21224

Serve on Resident Agent:

Joanne E. Pollak

733 North Broadway, BRB 102

Baltimore, Maryland 21205

Defendants

# **COMPLAINT**

IN THE

FOR

CIRCUIT COURT

**BALTIMORE CITY** 

Case No. 24-C14-003468

#### **COUNT I**

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Alicson Lawrence, by her attorneys, Jonathan Schochor, James D. Cardea, and Schochor, Federico and Staton, P.A. and sues, Donald E. Garland, M.D. and Francis Scott Key Medical Center, Inc. n/k/a Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Inc., Defendants:

1. At all times of which the Plaintiff complains, the Defendant Donald E. Garland, M.D. (hereinafter referred to as "Garland") represented to the Plaintiff and the public that he

possessed the degree of skill, knowledge and ability possessed by reasonably competent medical practitioners, practicing under the same or similar circumstances as those involving the Plaintiff.

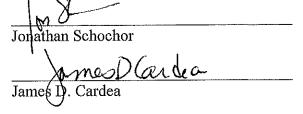
- 2. The Plaintiff alleges that the Defendant Garland herein, including duly authorized agents and/or employees of the Defendant Francis Scott Key Medical Center, Inc. n/k/a Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Hospital"), owed to the Plaintiff the duty to exercise the degree of care, skill and judgment expected of a competent medical practitioner acting in the same or similar circumstances, which duty included the performance of adequate and proper diagnostic tests and procedures to determine the nature and severity of the Plaintiff's condition, careful diagnosis of such condition, employment of appropriate procedures, surgery and/or treatment to correct such conditions without injury upon the Plaintiff, continuous evaluation of the Plaintiff's condition and the effects of such treatment, and adjustment of the course of treatment in response to such ongoing surveillance and evaluation all of which the Defendant failed to do.
- 3. The Defendant Garland was negligent in that he failed to employ appropriate treatment, surgery, tests and/or procedures, failed to carefully and thoroughly evaluate the Plaintiff's condition, failed to properly and appropriately diagnose the Plaintiff's condition, failed to thoroughly evaluate the effects and results of any tests and/or procedures performed, failed to properly evaluate the effects of chosen treatment, failed to adjust the Plaintiff's treatment in response to appropriate evaluation of the effects of treatment, failed to properly monitor the course of the Plaintiff's condition and treatment, failed to employ adequate and proper diagnostic procedures and/or tests to determine the nature and extent of the Plaintiff's condition, and was otherwise negligent.

- 4. The Plaintiff alleges that the Defendant Hospital, through its agents, servants and employees, owed to the Plaintiff a duty to exercise a degree of care, skill and judgment expected of a competent medical corporation acting in the same or similar circumstances, which duty included the performance of adequate and proper diagnostic tests and procedures to determine the nature and severity of the Plaintiff's condition, careful diagnosis of such condition, employment of appropriate procedures, tests, surgery and/or treatment to correct such conditions without inflicting injury upon the Plaintiff, continuous evaluation of the Plaintiff's condition and effects of such treatment, and the adjustment of the course of treatment in response to ongoing surveillance and evaluation -- all of which the Defendant failed to do.
- 5. The Defendant Hospital, through its agents, servants and/or employees, was negligent in that it failed to employ appropriate treatment, surgery and/or procedures, failed to carefully and thoroughly evaluate the Plaintiff's condition, failed to thoroughly evaluate the effects and results of any tests, treatment and/or procedures performed, failed to adjust the Plaintiff's treatment in response to appropriate evaluation of the effects of treatment, failed to properly monitor the course of the Plaintiff's condition and treatment, failed to employ adequate and proper diagnostic procedures and/or tests to determine the nature and extent of the Plaintiff's condition, failed to diagnose the Plaintiff's condition and was otherwise negligent.
- 6. At all times referred to herein, the Defendant Garland, and any other medical personnel caring for the Plaintiff, acted as duly authorized agents and/or employees of the Defendant Hospital, acting within the scope of their respective authority.
- 7. As a direct and proximate result of the ongoing negligence of these Defendants and each of them, the Plaintiff suffered severe physical pain, emotional anguish as well as fear and anxiety, and severe permanent disability as is more fully described, hereinbelow.

- 8. On July 10, 1993, the Plaintiff's mother, Nina Fabode, was a 30-year-old pregnant female who presented to the Defendant Hospital for delivery.
- 9. At the time of her presentation, the Plaintiff's mother was noted to be 4 centimeters dilated, 50% effaced, and at -1 station with intact membranes. She was admitted to the Defendant Hospital for expected delivery under the care of the Defendant Garland. At all times referred to herein, the Defendant Garland held himself out to be an expert in obstetrics.
- 10. At 4:50 p.m., the Plaintiff's mother's membranes were artificially ruptured and the fluid was clear. However, as the mother and child moved toward a vaginal delivery, shoulder dystocia was encountered. At all times referred to herein, the Defendant Garland attended the Plaintiff's mother and delivered the Plaintiff at 6:45 p.m. It is alleged that at the time the shoulder dystocia was encountered, the standards of care required the Defendant Garland, and any other hospital personnel caring for the Plaintiff's mother and infant Plaintiff, to utilize the correct and accepted maneuvers to relieve the shoulder dystocia and deliver the child without injury. Further, the standards of care required the Defendant Garland and/or others to avoid utilizing excessive traction and force on the fetal head to occasion the birth.
- 11. It is alleged that the Defendant Garland and/or others at the Defendant Hospital failed to use appropriate maneuvers, and utilized excess traction, and excessive force such that the infant Plaintiff, when born, had suffered obvious facial bruising, molding of the head, and a paralyzed left arm. It is asserted that the paralyzed left arm -- known as an Erb's Palsy -- resulted from the continuing negligence of the Defendant Garland and/or others in failing to use appropriate techniques, in conjunction with the utilization of excessive force and traction.
- 12. As a direct and proximate result of the ongoing negligence of these Defendants, the Plaintiff has suffered a severe brachial plexus injury, resulting in a useless left arm. It is

alleged that the injury is not only severe but permanent in nature. As a direct result, it is alleged that the Plaintiff was unable to enjoy activities that normal children do, is unable to enjoy activities that normal adults do, and has been forced to go through life as a one-armed person in a two-armed world.

- 13. It is alleged that the Plaintiff has in the past, is presently and will in the future continue to suffer severe pain, emotional anguish, fear, anxiety, humiliation and embarrassment over her condition. Further, it is alleged that the Plaintiff has in the past, is presently, and will in the future continue to incur hospital, surgical, physiotherapeutic, pharmacological, nursing, custodial and other losses and expenses for which claim is made.
- 14. It is alleged that the Plaintiff has been severely compromised in her ability to hold gainful employment, and is unable to work normally in the workforce as the direct and proximate result of the ongoing negligence of these Defendants.
- 15. It is asserted that had these Defendants acted in accordance with the standards of care, the Erb's Palsy would have been avoided, and all of the injuries, damages and permanent disability which the Plaintiff has sustained would have been avoided.
- 16. The Plaintiff refers to the negligence of these Defendants and each of them as the sole and proximate cause of all of the injuries, damages and severe, permanent disability from which she suffers -- with the Plaintiff being in no way contributorily negligent.
- 17. The negligence complained of occurred in Baltimore City. Venue is claimed in Baltimore City. The amount in controversy exceeds Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00).



Schocher, federico y Staton, fA Schocher, Federico and Staton, P.A. The Paulton 1211 St. Paul Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (410) 234-1000

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

IN THE

Plaintiff

CIRCUIT COURT

ν.

FOR

DONALD E. GARLAND, M.D., et al

**BALTIMORE CITY** 

Defendants

Case No.:

## **ELECTION FOR JURY TRIAL**

The Plaintiff in this case elects to try her case before a Jury.

Jonathan Schochor

James D. Cardea

Schooler Federica and Staton P. A.

Schochor, Federico and Staton, P.A.

The Paulton

1211 St. Paul Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(410) 234-1000

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

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APR 1 7 2014

HEALTH CARE
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
RESOLUTION OFFICE

ALICSON LAWRENCE

BEFORE THE

Claimant

HEALTH CARE

٧.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE

DONALD E. GARLAND, M.D., et al

RESOLUTION OFFICE

Defendants

HCA No.:

### ELECTION FOR WAIVER OF ARBITRATION

COMES NOW the Claimant, Alicson Lawrence, by their attorneys, Jonathan Schochor, James D. Cardea and Schochor, Federico and Staton, P.A., and file this Election for Waiver of Arbitration pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, Section 3-2A-06B. For reasons in support thereof, the Claimant respectfully represents:

- 1. The Claimant has elected to waive arbitration in the above-captioned case to save time and expense associated herewith.
  - 2. That after filing, this election shall be binding on all parties.

Jonathan Schochor

James D. Cardea

Schochor, Federico and Staton, P.A.

The Paulton

1211 St. Paul Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(410) 234-1000

Attorneys for the Claimant

BEFORE THE

Claimant

**HEALTH CARE** 

HEALTH CARE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE

٧.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY MEDICAL

RESOLUTION OFFICE

CENTER, INC., ET AL.

OF MARYLAND

Defendants

Case No.

### CLAIMANTS' CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I HEREBY CERTIFY and acknowledge that I have reviewed the hospital records, medical records, and other documentation pertaining to the facts and circumstances in the above-captioned case.

I hereby certify and acknowledge that there have been violations of the standards of care by Donald Garland, M.D. and Francis Scott Key Medical Center, Inc. which have directly and proximately resulted in injuries and damages to the Claimant.

I certify that I am a board-certified expert in obstetrics and gynecology. I further certify that I have had clinical experience, provided consultation relating to clinical practice and/or taught medicine in the Defendant's specialty or a related field of health-care, or in the field of health care in which the Defendant provided care or treatment to the Claimant, within five (5) years of the date of the alleged act or omission giving rise to the cause of action.

I acknowledge that less than 20% of my annual professional time directly involves testimony in personal injury claims. My report in the above-referenced case is attached hereto.

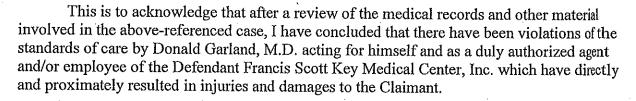
Richard Lacrani, M.D.

Jonathan Schochor, Esquire Schochor, Federico and Staton, P.A. The Paulton 1211 St. Paul Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re:

Alicson Lawrence

Dear Mr. Schochor:



It is my opinion that Dr. Garland breached the standards of care by failing to utilize appropriate maneuvers and using excessive traction during the delivery of Alicson resulting in a permanent left brachial plexus injury. It is my opinion that had these Defendants complied with the applicable standards of care that all of the injuries and damages, including the brachial plexus injury, sustained by Alicson Lawrence would have been avoided. Additionally, I incorporate the Complaint filed in this case by reference.

I certify that I am a board-certified expert in obstetrics and gynecology. I further certify that I have had clinical experience, provided consultation relating to clinical practice and/or taught medicine in the Defendants' specialty or a related field of health-care, or in the field of health care in which the Defendants provided care or treatment to the Claimant, within five (5) years of the date of the alleged act or omission giving rise to the cause of action.

Accordingly, I have concluded that the case filed before the Health Care Alternative Dispute Resolution Office of Maryland is meritorious. I also acknowledge that less than twenty percent of my annual professional time involves testimony in personal injury claims.

This report represents a broad summary of my opinions for purposes of certifying the merit of this matter. I specifically reserve the right to modify, amend and/or supplement my opinions as further information about this case is made available to me through the discovery process.

Very truly youks,

Righard Luciani, M.D.

IN THE

Claimant

**HEALTH CARE** 

vs.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE

DONALD E. GARLAND, M.D., et al.

RESOLUTION OFFICE

Defendants

HCA No.: 2014-170

#### ORDER OF TRANSFER

The Claimant, by and through counsel, having elected a Waiver of Arbitration under the provisions of Annotated Code of Maryland, Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, §3-2A-06B, it is this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2014, by the Health Care Alternative Dispute Resolution Office,

ORDERED, that this case shall be and is hereby, transferred to the United States

District Court, or to the Circuit Court of the appropriate venue.

HARRY I CHASE, DIKECTOR
Health Care Atternative Dispute Resolution Office

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the above ORDER OF TRANSFER have been mailed, postage prepaid, to all counsel.

HARRY L. CHASE, DIRECTOR

City or County

CYXYTT	NIONI DONOROGICO	CASE INFORMATION REPORT
(.1VII.	- INCHENCIPATION AND A TOP	CASE RIFURINALIUN REFURI

DIRECTIONS:			
Plaintiff: This Information Report must be completed and attached to the complaint filed with the Clerk of Court unless your case is exempted from the requirement by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals pursuant to Rule 2-111(a).			
unless your case is exempted from th A copy must be included for each de		ne Court of Appeais purs	uant to Kute 2-111(a).
	e an Information Report as required b	v Rule 2-323(h).	
THIS INFORMATION REPO	RT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AS A	IN ANSWER OR RESPO	ONSE.
FORM FILED BY: 🔀 PLAINTIF	F 🔲 DEFENDANT CASE 1	IUMBER	(Clerk to insert)
CASE NAME: Lawrence		Garland, et al	(CREIK 10 INSCIT)
CASE NAME: DEWIGNO	Plaintiff VS.		Defendant
JURY DEMAND: X Yes N RELATED CASE PENDING? Y	o Anticipated length of tria	l: hours or n:	10 days
Special Requirements?	eter (Please attach Form CC-DC 41)		
ADA a	ccommodation (Please attach Form C	C-DC 49)	
NATURE O (CHECK O		DAMAC	GES/RELIEF
TORTS	LABOR	A, TOR	TS
Motor Tort	Workers' Comp.	Actual Damages	
Premises Liability	Wrongful Discharge	Under \$7,500	Medical Bills
Assault & Battery	☐ EEO	\$7,500 - \$50,000	<b>\$</b>
Product Liability	Other	\$50,000 - \$100,000	Property Damages
X Professional Malpractice	CONTRACTS	X Over \$100,000	\$
Wrongful Death	Insurance		Wage Loss
Business & Commercial	Confessed Judgment		\$
Libel & Slander	Other		
False Arrest/Imprisonment	REAL PROPERTY	B. CONTRACTS	C. NONMONETARY
Nuisance	Judicial Sale		
Toxic Torts	Condemnation	Under \$10,000	Declaratory Judgment
Fraud	Landlord Tenant	\$10,000 - \$20,000	<b>☐</b> Injunction
Malicious Prosecution	Other	Over \$20,0000	Other
Lead Paint	OTHER		
Asbestos	Civil Rights		
Other	☐ Environmental		
	<b>□</b> ADA		
,	Other		
ALTERNATI	VE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INF	ORMATION	<u> </u>
Is this case appropriate for referral to	an ADR process under Md. Rule 17	-101? (Check all that app	ly)
A. Mediation Yes		t Conference Yes	No
B. Arbitration Yes	No D. Neutral E	valuation Yes	NO .
	TRACK REQUEST	A THEORET	OF WAT II
With the exception of Baltimore Cou THIS CASE WILL THEN BE TRA	nty and Baltimore City, please fill in	the estimated LENGTH	OF TRIAL.
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PLEASE SEE PAGE TWO OF THIS FORM FOR INSTRUCTIONS PERTAINING TO THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND COMPLEX SCIENCE AND/OR MEDICAL CASE			
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ASTAR), AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS IF YOU ARE FILING YOUR COMPLAINT IN BALTIMORE CITY, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, OR BALTIMORE COUNTY.			
COMPLAINT IN BALTIMORE			E COUNTY.
Date 4/28/14	Signature	1 0	

	BUSINI	ESS AND TECHNOLOGY O	ASE MANAGEMENT PRO	GRAM
For	all jurisdictions, if E		nation under Md. Rule 16-205 is req. eck one of the tracks below.	uested, attach a duplicate
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		Expedited	Standard	
	Tr	ial within 7 months	Trial within 18 mont	hs
	•	of Filing	of Filing	•
ПЕ	MERGENCY RELI	EF REQUESTED	Signature	Date
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	Expedited -	Trial within 7 months of Filing	Standard - Trial within 18	months of Filing
		UR COMPLAINT IN BALTIMORE OUT THE APPROPRIATE BOX BE	CITY, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUN ELOW.	TY, OR BALTIMORE
CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY (CHECK ONLY ONE)			E)	
	Expedited	Trial 60 to 120 days from notice. No	on-jury matters.	
<b>□</b> s	Standard-Short	Trial 210 days.		
X s	Standard	Trial 360 days.	•	
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	Asbestos	Events and deadlines set by individu	nal judge,	
□ P	Protracted Cases	Complex cases designated by the Ad	lministrative Judge.	
		CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRI	NCE GEORGE'S COUNTY	
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□ L	iability is conceded.			
☐ L	lability is not conced	led, but is not seriously in dispute.		
	Liability is seriously i	n dispute.		

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY		
Expedited (Trial Date-90 days)	Attachment Before Judgment, Declaratory Judgment (Simple), Administrative Appeals, District Court Appeals and Jury Trial Prayers, Guardianship, Injunction, Mandamus.	
Standard (Trial Date-240 days)	Condemnation, Confessed Judgments (Vacated), Contract, Employment Related Cases, Fraud and Misrepresentation, International Tort, Motor Tort, Other Personal Injury, Workers' Compensation Cases.	
Extended Standard (Trial Date-345 days)	Asbestos, Lender Liability, Professional Malpractice, Serious Motor Tort or Personal Injury Cases (medical expenses and wage loss of \$100,000, expert and out-of-state witnesses (parties), and trial of five or more days), State Insolvency.	
Complex (Trial Date-450 days)	Class Actions, Designated Toxic Tort, Major Construction Contracts, Major Product Liabilities, Other Complex Cases.	