New York Medical Malpractice Attorney Gerry Oginski presents

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Las

Vegas Edition





# MED MAL-WHAT'S IN THE NEWS? **GERRY'S NEVER ENDING STORY** NEW TRIVIA GAME **PHOTO GALLERY**

**MARCH 2012** 

JURYTIME

# **NEW YORK HOSPITALS SCORE LOW ON SAFETY SURVEY**

A new study sheds a critical eye on New York Cityarea hospitals this week, labeling many of them, "dangerous" relative to the national average.

The study looked at 1,045 hospitals across the nation, including 81 local hospitals (17 were excluded due to lack of data). The ranking criteria was four-fold: the level of hospital-acquired infection, 30-day readmission rates, clarity of information at discharge, and clarity of drug use and side-effect information.

The highest-rated city hospital, NYU, was placed 10% below the national average in terms of patient safety. New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Mount Sinai fared even worse, at 18% and 31% below the national average. Meanwhile, Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx scored a whopping 68% below par.

A Jacobi spokesperson disputed the ranking metrics. First, 'ability to communicate' disadvantages the

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Las Vegas Vacation: (Top) Tiger at Sigfried & Roy's Secret Garden, Mirage Hotel. (Middle) View from Bellagio looking at Paris Hotel. (Bottom) Bellagio Hotel. President's Week with the kids in Vegas.



## AT THE BELLAGIO

# CUSTOMER SERVICE LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN

The customer service is out of this world. In fact, it is so ingrained into their everyday work that it appears effortless.

Walking down the hall after leaving our room, I encounter 3 different hotel staff. A maid, a maintenance man and a housekeeping supervisor. Each one, individually stops what they are doing and asks how I am doing.

"Can I get you anything?"

"Is there anything you would like?"

"Good morning. I hope you enjoy your day..."

It's a shame that all hospitality services don't follow the Bellagio's model.

Upon our arrival of our crew (I'm with my family on vacation) the lights were out in part of

our suite. A phone call to the operator was answered with "We'll send somebody right up."

I figured someone would come up when they got around to it. Remember, the hotels in Las Vegas have thousands of people each. Less than one minute later, an engineer showed up and resolved the problem. Five minutes later, I got a call from guest services wanting to know if the problem has been solved and if there's anything else they can do for me.

When we returned from our day's activities, there was a hotel maid in our hallway. It's a really long hallway. As we were passing her linen cart, she stopped, asked us if we had a nice day and then inquired which room we were in.

She asked if we wanted Belgian chocolates to go along with fresh linens that she would bring in immediately if we wanted.

I have stayed at many hotels. None has ever offered the level of customer service that I have seen here.

I'd go back here in a second, it's that good.

**GERRY'S NEVER ENDING STORY** 

### JIMMY CHANGA ESCAPES FROM Iran

TAXA PARTY NEW YORKS

Jimmy immediately put on his headphones and pretended to sleep. He did not want to interact with the Iranian president at all. Jimmy's security guard was tense but playing things cool and going along with sheer ignorance. He too put on his headphones but kept his eyes wide open.

It was a long plane ride. Jimmy couldn't sleep for the entire ride. He pulled out his laptop halfway through the ride and started to do some work. He played some games. Then he decided he would watch a movie.

The Iranian head of state, sitting next to him, turned to him and asks him what movie that is. Jimmy says it's "When Harry Met Sally with Billy Crystal."

Ahmadinejad says "I love that movie. Especially when the woman in the deli says "I'll have what she's having."

Jimmy ignored him for the rest of flight. As soon as the door opened Jimmy was the first one to bolt off the plane. He wasn't worried about his security guard. He would make his way out to the waiting car.

A military advisor to President Obama came personally to pick up Jimmy and his security detail. They were whisked through customs with Jimmy's special super-duper green and blue passport. These were issued only to national security agents.

Jimmy was taken to a safe house in New York City. It was actually a rundown looking apartment within the Holiday Inn on 10th Ave. on the third floor. What nobody outside the hotel knew was that the apartment had been retrofitted to contain the highest tech listening devices in the world. The National Security Agency took 2000 ft.<sup>2</sup> and the unit is also used to conduct CIA debriefings and national security covert operations.

When their car pulled up to the front of the hotel, Jimmy said to the military advisor "You must be kidding me. This is where we are staying? You couldn't have picked something a little nicer, like Motel Six?"

Walking into the main lobby was dirty and disgusting. Nobody even glanced at them as they walked in. They went straight to the staircase and walked up three flights. They walked to room number 302 and knocked. The military advisor took out his Cap'n Crunch secret decoder ring and put it into the special slot by the doorknob. Within 3 seconds Jimmy heard lots of buzzing and high-pitched electronics.

They entered a cubicle that could hold a maximum of three people. There was a television camera pointing straight at them with a retinal scan, together with palm reader and x-ray scanner built into the wall. Each person was thoroughly scanned and questioned. After 10 minutes, the door to the next portal opened.

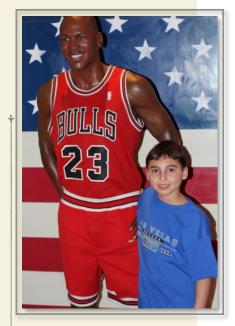
Jimmy was expecting a bikini-clad beauty on the other side with a tall glass of ice cold beer. Instead, he was treated to a sight and only a handful of people would ever see.

The most advanced electronic listening equipment in the world was displayed in front of him on wall-to-wall consoles. The National Security Advisor was wearing Jimmy's disguise as Ayatollah Khomeni as a joke. Jimmy's heart skipped a beat.

Join me next month when we follow Jimmy's antics in my never ending fictional story.



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At Madam Tussaud's Wax Museum

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## **Medical Malpractice; What's in the News?**

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# Implanted Chips Deliver Drugs by Remote Control; New Danish Study

Researchers in Denmark have recently completed the first ever successful attempt at wirelessly controlling drug injections. The path is now open for implants to regularly administer drugs by remote control. The goal is convenience, for when the patient no longer has to visit the doctor regularly or self-administer the needle at home. It may also be convenient to dose a patient when they are sleep to minimize side effects.

Today, we have examples of drug-injecting implants that act automatically, like a chemotherapy coinsized wafer or a contraceptive rod. But this study explores controlling the doses by remote control and programming.

The Danish experiment was run on eight women with severe bone-thinning osteoporosis. Such women are sometimes given daily injections of teriparatide or "Forteo," a bone-building drug. But the inconvenience of the shots is often too much for many women, who end up quitting the treatment.

This study's eight women had a microchip implanted below their waistlines. Each microchip holds 20 miniscule "wells" containing the drug Forteo. One well at a time is opened when a wireless signal dissolves a nano-thin casing of gold -- thereby allowing the drug to enter the bloodstream. One of the microchips did not respond but the seven others successfully had 20 "shots" released, each one day apart. Blood tests showed the results had been achieved smoothly in these women.

This study purposely began eight weeks after the implants because a scar tissue-like membrane normally develops around these implants. Researchers wanted to see if the microchip works after the scar was already afforded the time to form.

#### continued from p. 1

hospital because its patients speak 150 different languages. This is a reasonable complaint, particularly for most metro-area hospitals. Second, Jacobi treats many poor patients, thus placing it at an immediate disadvantage because they have to deal with "substance abuse or mental illness" among patients who are "uninsured, homeless or live in shelters." This may also go for other wellrenowned hospitals, which are placed at a disadvantage because their patients often arrive under the most desperate of circumstances to benefit from the hospital's quality treatment.

Still, the head of the study claimed that adjustments for these variables revealed the very same results. The study's authors hypothesized that New York's poor performance is due to a medical culture, which shields doctors' egos from criticism regarding too many of their errors.

Meanwhile, the top-rated hospital was Long Island's St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn, at 22% above the national average.

#### **OBSERVATION:**

One thing not pointed out in this article is that the worst time to be in a hospital is mid-summer. Why is that? That's when the new doctors-in-training, known as interns and residents, begin their training.

What's in the News?

# Website Rejuvenation! Renewal!

Take a look around my newly revised website <u>http://www.Oginski-Law.com</u> (you can spend days on there) and let me know what you think of the new design and layout. Send me an email with your thoughts: <u>Gerry@Oginski-law.com</u> or tell me about it on Facebook or Twitter: #GerryOginski.



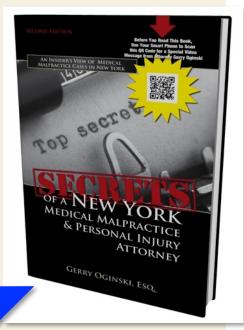
#### **NEW BOOK!**

My new 2nd Edition is out! 322 pages of useful content that will educate you and teach you how injury and accident cases work in the State of New York.

One of my new chapters talks about the "Lost Chance" or "Lost Opportunity" type of case. What that means is that because of someone's carelessness an injured victim lost the opportunity to achieve an optimal result.

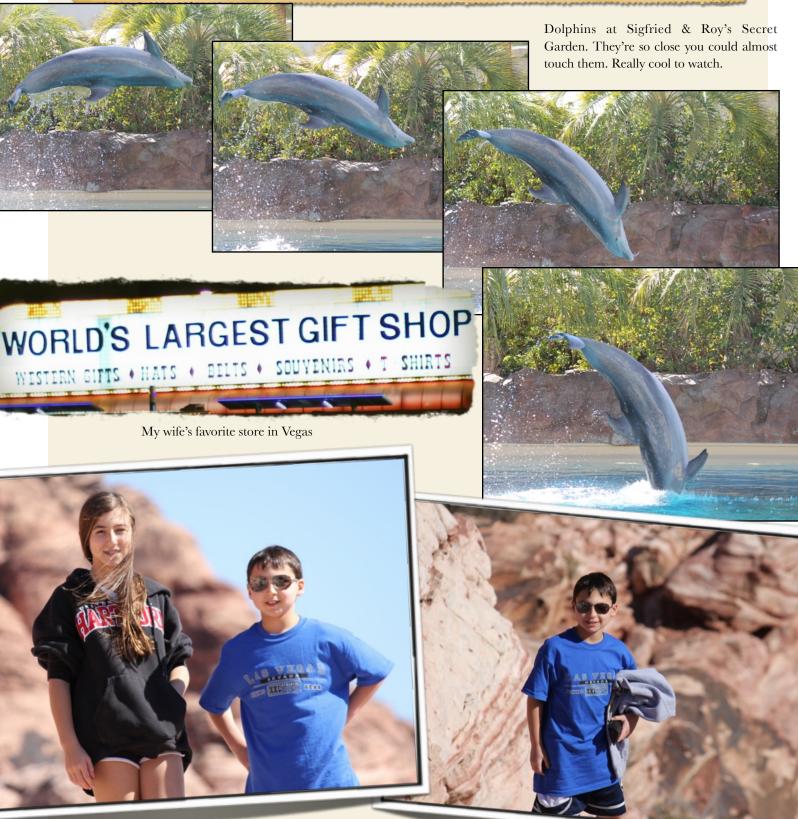
If you have a smartphone, go grab it right now and use it to scan the QR code you see on the cover on the right.

To get your **FREE** copy of my **NEW** 2nd Edition, just go to my website <u>http://www.Oginski-Law.com</u>. Enter your name and email in the form on the right side of the web page and you'll get an immediate download. Enjoy your reading!



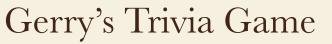






Hiking in Red Rock Canyon with Mia & David





#### **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF NEW YORK LAW**

# **TRUE OR FALSE?**

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- If you bring a lawsuit for your injuries and you had lost earnings, you must turn over either your tax returns or your W2 forms to the defense.
- If you have a deep dark secret, you need not disclose that to your lawyer when you bring a lawsuit.
- A pre-trial conference is held to determine if settlement negotiations can occur.
- A subpoena duces tecum is a document that requires you to explain your credentials.
- If a settlement offer is made, your lawyer is obligated to disclose that offer to you.
- If your case involves injuries to a child, the judge is required to approve any agreed-upon settlement.
- 7. When a judge wears a black robe in court, he typically wear shorts under it since it's really hot.

- 8. The jury is considered the 'judges of the facts."
- When they judge yells out "Order in the Court" it's time to place your lunch order with the court officer.
- The reason you see 40 lawyers sitting in the back of the courtroom is that they have nothing else to do and want to watch your case on trial.

#### **BONUS QUESTION**

If your case has a significant weakness, the best thing to do is ignore it during opening arguments and hope the defense doesn't bring it up.

Answers are on the back page



Blackjack anyone? Craps perhaps? Not me, thanks.

PAGE'



Dinner time for this little kitty at Sigfried & Roy's Secret Garden. The animals are so close to you it's incredible.

We opted not to go on the wild r o l l e r coaster at NY, NY.



# ORK INJURY TIME



Lion trainer having a 'heart-to-heart' with the little kitty. Kitty's listening closely. You don't see the raw meat in trainer's hand.

HAVE LEGAL QUESTIONS? Pick up the phone and call. That's what I'm here for. You can reach me at 516-487-8207 or email me: Lawmed10@Yahoo.com I welcome your call.

Give this newsletter to your best friend. They'll thank you for it, and so will I.

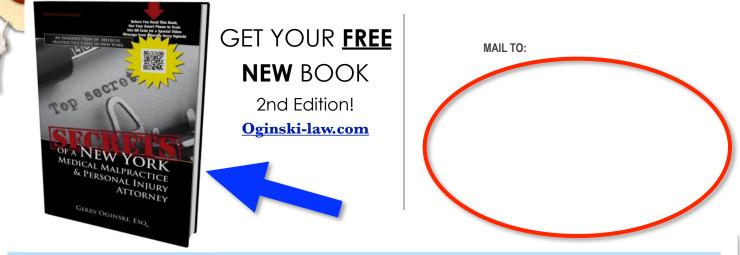
Answers to Trivia Game

1. True, 2. False, 3. True, 4. False, 5. True, 6. True, 7. False, 8. True, 9. False, 10. False, BONUS: False

# YORK INJURY TIME THE LAW OFFICE OF

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Call me right now with any legal questions about injuries from any accident or medical care. I promise to give you a straightforward and honest answer. That's my guarantee.

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