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LifeNews.com Editor

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Baltimore, MD (LifeNews.com) – A coalition of pro-life advocates in Maryland are asking state officials to hold an abortion practitioner accountable for killing a woman in a botched abortion. They held a press conference today asking the Maryland Board of Physicians to take strong action against Romeo Ferrer.

The board will be holding a case resolution conference at their offices tomorrow and the collection of pro-life physicians, attorneys and pregnancy center officials want Ferrer disciplined.

The complaint against Ferrer revolves around a February 2006 abortion he did on a 21-year-old African-American woman at Gynecare Center in Severna Park.

The woman sought a second trimester dilation and evacuation abortion procedure but it eventually claimed her life.

Ferrer is accused of failing to properly administer pain medications, failing to monitor the patient's respiration and ventilation, and failing to employ standard methods of care to necessitate the patient.

The Board of Physician's Peer Reviewers concluded the woman's death resulted from Ferrer's failure to meet the standard of quality care in violation of state law.

Jack Ames, the director of the pro-life Maryland organization Defend Life, shared the request for action with LifeNews.com.

"I don't know how you tell the orphaned child of this woman that his mom died because the Governor, the House of Delegates, the State Senate, and the Maryland Board of Physicians failed to adequately regulate Romeo

Ferrer and outpatient surgical facilities like his Gynemed facility in Severna Park," he said.

"Since 1987, we have worked diligently to protect the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. Our efforts have been continually rebuffed by certain elected and appointed officials who are in the back pocket of the NARAL and Planned Parenthood," he added.

"I hope one day these same officials have to look this innocent young man in the eye and explain how they decided that veterinary clinics deserved more oversight and regulation than the facility that killed his mother," Ames said.

The coalition of Maryland leaders are also calling on the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County, Frank Weathersbee, to review Ferrer's conduct and the tragic death of this innocent young woman to determine if the negligence in this case rises to the level of criminal negligence and merits prosecution.

Maryland attorney Matt Paavla told LifeNews.com he wants Weathersbee to conduct a probe and highlighted Ferrer's medical and potentially criminal negligence.

"As the complaint also states, even when Dr. Ferrer's surgical assistant noticed that the patient's fingernail beds were cyanotic, Dr. Ferrer 'attempted to establish an airway, but failed to give [the patient] supplemental oxygen,'" he said. "As a result of the grossly negligent conduct of Dr. Ferrer, a 21 year-old woman is dead, and justice must be served."

House Minority Leader Tony O'Donnell of the Maryland House of Delegates, Bishop Harry Jackson of the High Impact Leadership Coalition, Kurt Linnemann of the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, and Pam Palumbo of the Bowie Crofton – Severna Park Pregnancy Clinics also attended the press conference.



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