

Practitioner Denies He Botched Legal Abortion That Killed Hispanic Woman

by Steven Ertelt | LIFENEWS.COM | 3/1/10 9:00 AM

Practitioner Denies He Botched Legal Abortion That Killed Hispanic Woman

by Steven Ertelt

LifeNews.com Editor

March 1, 2010



Queens, NY (LifeNews.com) – A New York City abortion practitioner is denying he did the botched abortion that killed a local Hispanic woman last month. The abortion was done at the A-1 Women's Care abortion center located in Jackson Heights and, although abortion practitioner Salomon Epstein does abortions there he denies he did it.

Last month, 37-year-old [Alexandra Nuñez died](#) after a botched abortion claimed her life.

The State of New York Department of Health [has opened an investigation](#) into Epstein and his abortion center.

But, in an email received over the weekend, Epstein told LifeNews.com he did not do the failed abortion that claimed the woman's life.

"I did not treat this patient and I do not operate the A 1 clinic that is mentioned," he claims. "You may call that clinic directly ... not one of my patients ever died."

"You should share this with your friends at Operation Rescue," Epstein told LifeNews.com.

After passing along the email to the pro-life group, OR investigators contacted the A-1 Clinic and didn't get very far.

"A call was made by Operation Rescue investigators and an unidentified receptionist refused to give any information, but did not deny it when questioned if Epstein worked at the clinic," OR informed LifeNews.com today.

"If you got an e-mail, you work it out with him," she said.

The investigator responded, "But he asked us to call you," at which time the receptionist hung up.

Operation Rescue investigator Tara Shaver says a receptionist told her late last year that Salomon Epstein was involved with the abortion facility.

Shaver later filed a complaint with the New York Medical Board against Epstein when news of the Nunez abortion death surfaced. Shaver was sent a letter confirming that an investigation was underway and has since spoken with investigators.

Troy Newman, the president of Operation Rescue, commented on the latest development of the email to LifeNews.com.

"Whether Epstein was involved in the death of Mrs. Nunez is a matter now for investigators to sort out. We have acted in good faith based on the best information we have been able to gather in order to protect women from further tragedy," he said.

"We have years of experience dealing with abortionists who are not entirely truthful. We will await the outcome of the investigation to hopefully get to the bottom of this," he said.

A-1 Women's Center is located in a run-down building in a predominately Hispanic neighborhood of Jackson Heights and it was only recently licensed in July of last year to do surgical procedures that required anesthesia.

In the botched abortion, emergency officials responded to an emergency call from the A1 Medicine facility at 95-45 Roosevelt. There, they found Alexandra Nuñez bleeding very heavily following an abortion procedure and she was rushed to Elmhurst Hospital Center where she was later pronounced dead.

No charges have been filed yet in connection with Nunez's death, but Newman said Epstein should be charged and the abortion facility investigation because of poor conditions.

"Just one look at the A-1 Women's Center and it is easy to guess why this happened. I wouldn't take my dog there," OR president Troy Newman said.

Newman says the abortion business is similar to others around the nation that are run poorly, in shoddy condition, and prey on minority women.

Despite the abortion death, staff at the abortion center, who did not return a LifeNews.com phone call seeking comment, told the New York Daily News that everything went properly during the abortion procedure and that they are still booking women for abortions.

"The patient was transferred to the hospital, she didn't die at the clinic," a woman from the clinic told the newspaper. "Nothing happened here."

"There is an investigation going forward," Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said according to the newspaper, "but as of yet, there's no indication of any criminality."

The news of Nunez's death stunned her family because she told them she was headed to a medical center in Newark, New Jersey to have a cyst removed — apparently not wanting them to know she was headed to an abortion clinic.

visited on 1/3/2014

"I'm upset because I never got a chance to say goodbye," sister Daisy Davila, 19, told the News. "She didn't want anyone to go with her. I made dinner and lunch [yesterday] hoping she would come back."

"We're not angry. We just want to know what happened," said Davila, who told the newspaper her mother did not believe in abortion. "She was a strong woman, always happy. I looked up to her."

Reports indicate the second-floor office specializes in plastic surgery, laser wrinkle surgery, skin depigmentation and liposuction but does abortions as well.

Sign Up for Free Pro-Life News From LifeNews.com

Daily Pro-Life News Report Twice-Weekly Pro-Life

News Report Receive a free daily email report from LifeNews.com with the latest pro-life news stories on abortion, euthanasia and stem cell research. [Sign up here](#). Receive a free twice-weekly email report with the latest pro-life news headlines on abortion, euthanasia and stem cell research. [Sign up here](#).