Justice Dept. Settles Two HIV Health Care Discrimination Claims

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Two settlements have been resolved involving claims that health care providers refused to serve people with HIV, which is a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), according to a Department of Justice (DOJ) statement. The first complaint was filed by an HIV-positive man who went to the Mercy Medical Group Midtown Clinic in Sacramento, where a podiatrist incorrectly said he could not perform surgery because he might get HIV during the procedure. The second was a claim against the Knoxville Chiropractic Clinic North in Knoxville, Tennessee, after a receptionist told a man with HIV the doctor would not treat people “like him.” The settlement agreements require the medical facilities to implement a nondiscrimination policy and to train staff on the ADA. In addition, Mercy Medical Group, which is affiliated with the CHW Medical Foundation, will pay $60,000 to the complainant and $25,000 as a civil penalty, and Knoxville Chiropractic Centers will pay $10,000 as a civil penalty.

To read the DOJ statement, click here.

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