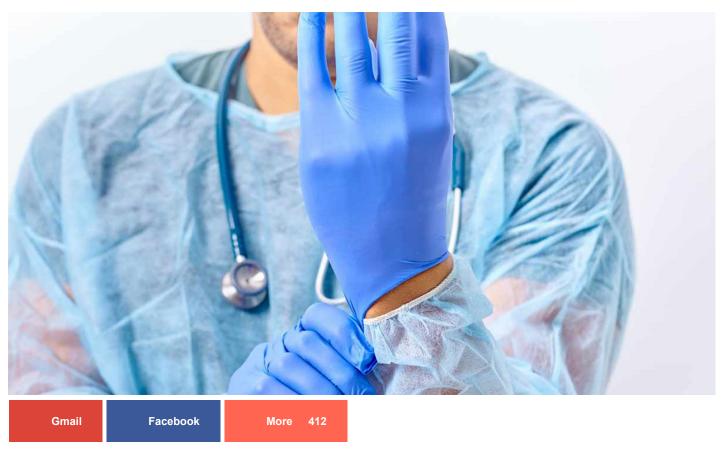


ANALYSIS

Florida abortionist fined for doing wrong abortion, 'violating' patient's body

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser | June 17, 2019, 11:46am



Abortion advocates have frequently claimed abortion should be "between a woman and her doctor." But pro-lifers have pointed out on multiple occasions that abortionists have little, if any, history with their patients before they commit an abortion on those patients. An abortionist in Florida's Broward County has been fined by the state licensing board more than three times the recommended penalty for a major medical mistake. Harvey Craig Roth was supposed to provide a medication abortion (abortion pill) to his 35-year-old patient, but committed a surgical procedure on her instead. Florida state health attorneys recommended a \$3,000 fine, but the Florida Board of Medicine felt differently, and more than tripled the fine.

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported on the case, pointing out that Roth violated

state surgical rules. One of them is the so-called "pause" rule, requiring that surgeons pause before any procedure, making sure they have the right patient, the right site, and the right procedure. They must repeat the process again if they leave the operating room for any reason.

Roth, who commits abortions at A Woman's Center of Hollywood, admitted to not following this rule because he didn't think it affected his work. Yet the patient, identified only as "K.N.M.," was only supposed to take abortion pills.



When K.N.M. went to the abortion facility in December of 2017, she wanted the morning-after pill. An assistant took her to a waiting room, and she was told to wait for an ultrasound. Before beginning the procedure, Roth had a conversation with her, in which he repeatedly called her by the wrong name while performing an ultrasound. Roth told the board that he also asked her if she had any questions. "She said, 'no,'" Roth said. "I told her that I was going to give her some medication. We started on IV. I gave her some sedation."

He never told the patient that he was going to commit a surgical abortion, and he only realized his mistake after she had been taken to recovery. While he said he apologized and documented the mistake in her chart, his attorneys claimed that it was staffers at the facility who later removed the documentation, only for Roth to allegedly replace them again later. Yet Roth claimed during the hearing that his facility was not doing "sloppy"

work.

The patient filed the complaint against Roth, stating that the procedure "was traumatic, and she felt a violation of her body."

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Hector Vila, the vice chairman for the state board of medicine, had little sympathy for Roth. "I think he's lacking any sense of responsibility for the true care of the patient in the facility," he said. "Whether you just work in the facility or whatever, the conduct of the care of the patient is your responsibility. You can't just walk in and say, 'I'm just here to do a certain procedure. That patient is your responsibility." And yet, it has been reported that **showing up** and doing the procedure with no other patient interaction is **exactly** what many abortionists do.

This is just the latest in a long line of problems with Roth; he has been sued for malpractice **numerous times**. He has botched numerous procedures, including several circumcisions and c-section deliveries. That such a doctor would be allowed to commit abortions — a doctor who not only botches procedures, but seemingly treats his patients as interchangeable and flouts informed consent — is horrifying. Abortion allegedly must be legal to prevent women from becoming victims of exactly this kind of abortionist; why is it that abortion advocates, then, look the other way?

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