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Banned abortion doc's N.J. clinic files for bankruptcy, report says



Dr. Steven Chase Brigham speaks with one of his attorneys as he waits to appear before the Board of Medical Examiners in this 2010 file photo. (Tony Kurdzuk/The Star-Ledger) () Print Email

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<u>HACKENSACK</u> — Englewood Women's Services, which allegedly continues to be controlled by an <u>abortion doctor who lost his state license</u>, has filed for bankruptcy protection from creditors after a federal judge in Maryland awarded \$6.5 million to a former patient in a malpractice case, The Record has reported.

In 2010, the New Jersey Physician's Board suspended Dr. Steven Chase Brigham's license after the state attorney general argued he used a two-state process to evade New Jersey's requirement that terminating pregnancies must take place in a hospital or licensed health care facility after 14 weeks.

Brigham was accused of skirting state rules by starting late-term abortions in his South Jersey office, and ordering the women to drive to his Maryland clinic where the procedure was finished.

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Brigham, who according to the report estimates he performed 40,000 abortions, <u>lost his New Jersey license in November 2014</u> after illegally performing abortions in Maryland.

After his license was revoked, Brigham was ordered to give up financial interest in his chain of clinics. Brigham signed over interests to another doctor who performed abortions and then Brigham a became medical director.

The state says the transfer was a sham.

In 2014, the state Board of Medical Examiners <u>ordered Brigham to pay \$140,000</u> in fines after determining the doctor was responsible for several counts of gross negligence, deception and official misconduct.

Paul Loriquet, an AG's office spokesman, says there is no evidence Brigham is currently engaged in any clinical practice, according to the report.

Englewood Women's Services is one of 14 in a chain in several states.

According to the report, the bankruptcy filing lists Brigham as the owner of the company. The Englewood clinic is more than \$51,000 behind on rent and an eviction is pending, according to the report, which cites court documents.

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