

Investigations reveal 4 deaths after abortions

Investigations of an Arizona doctor who nearly aborted a full-term baby on June 30 have uncovered four abortion-related deaths involving the abortionist or the owner of the Phoenix abortion clinic at which he worked.

Police began investigating Dr. John Biskind, 72, after he nearly aborted a full-term baby girl at the A-Z Women's Medical Center in Phoenix, which performs abortions on babies of up to 24 weeks' gestation.

An earlier examination by clinic personnel reportedly had shown the fetus to be of 23 weeks' gestation; it turned out to be 37 weeks along, police said.

Biskind stopped the abortion and delivered the baby.

She suffered lacerations and a skull fracture during the attempted abortion. Police said a Texas couple planned to adopt her.

Police are also looking into the death of 33-year-old LouAnne Herron, who bled to death after an abortion performed by Biskind in April.

Records of the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners show that the gynecologist was issued a letter of concern eight years ago for nearly aborting another full-term baby. In 1995 he was censured for gross negligence after another patient bled to death.

The clinic owner, Moshe Hachamovitch, who also owns clinics in New York and Texas, is the target of numerous lawsuits and complaints.

In Texas, he is being sued in the 1994 death of a 15-year-old girl who underwent an abortion at a clinic he owned in Houston.

In New York, he was disciplined after a woman died following a second-trimester abortion at one of his clinics.

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