

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

MEDICAL MISCONDUCT PART 2 OF 4

Flawed state oversight lets doctors who are accused of abuse continue to see patients



A FAILURE TO PROTECT

Story by Emily Hoerner and Lisa Schencker | Photographs by Stacey Wescott | Chicago Tribune

Editor's note: This story includes descriptions of sexual abuse.

Doctors and other health care providers accused by patients of sexual misconduct kept practicing — sometimes for years — because of gaps in Illinois laws and a licensing agency that can be slow to take disciplinary action, a Tribune investigation has found.

The providers went on to harm additional patients, in some cases, as their licenses remained in good standing with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

Though Illinois law requires hospital officials who learn of abuse allegations to take action to protect patients, the Tribune found that some medical providers who work outside those settings were left to operate largely unchecked until they were charged with a crime.

In one case, an independent doctor continued seeing patients for two and a half years as several patients complained to police about his behavior. State law does not require police or prosecutors to notify the licensing agency of investigations into health care providers, only

Lisa Eller, above, stands near the former Yorkville office of Dr. Haoehua Yang, who was charged with criminal sexual abuse and criminal sexual assault after she and other patients went to police about his behavior.

NEXT IN THIS SERIES:
One doctor's damage

Read the series so far at chicagotribune.com/medicalmisconduct

of certain criminal charges.

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, meanwhile, sometimes took years to discipline medical providers accused of sexual misconduct.

The agency did not take action against a nurse's license for more than two years after learning he had been fired from a hospital over allegations of sexually inappropriate behavior. The nurse went on to face criminal sexual abuse charges after a woman alleged he sexually assaulted her while providing in-home care.

The agency did not suspend the license of a chiropractor until more than two years after he was found guilty of battery stemming from sexual contact with a patient. When it did finally act, the agency blamed the delay in part on the practitioner for failing to notify the agency of the outcome of his criminal case.

Illinois law does not require medical providers to tell patients they are under police investigation or, in many cases, that they have faced discipline from the state,

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Advocates: Crashes not taken seriously

Cyclists, pedestrians criticize slow rate of ticketing, charges

By Sarah Freishtat
Chicago Tribune

Nakari Campbell still doesn't remember much of the day the driver ran her over.

She was crossing the street in a crosswalk blocks from her West Town home when a car turned left at an intersection and struck her, flipping her onto the hood of the red Mercedes, witnesses told police. She fell off the car, which then dragged her and ran her over. The driver fled, leaving the front grill of the car behind, the license plate number locked in the minds of the witnesses, and Campbell so badly injured she missed the first months of her senior year of high school.

Campbell doesn't remember any of that. She doesn't remember getting her hair done earlier that day, or getting ready before she left that Friday night to see friends, but that's what her mom has told her.

What has happened in the months since the August crash is much clearer to Campbell: She spent weeks in the hospital and a rehabilitation center, where she celebrated her 18th birthday. Her family sued the man believed to own the car. She eventually returned to school.

And in that time, police have made no arrests for the crash.

"I just want this man off the streets," Campbell said.

Serious or fatal traffic crashes with pedestrians or cyclists in Chicago, like the one involving Campbell, often fail to lead to charges or citations, a Tribune analysis of Chicago police data shows. Of more than 4,000 such crashes between 2018

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INSIDE



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Centering criticism in a radical way

Jupiter Magazine incorporates the visions of its co-founders, who were informed by the Black feminist tradition. **Life+Travel**

Turning up in all the wrong places

Gerry Conway co-created the Punisher 50 years ago for Marvel. What does he think about the skull logo's usage today? **A+E**

Trump clinches SC primary victory

Nikki Haley's defeat in her home state is likely to add pressure on her to bow out of the race. **Nation & World, Page 3**

TODAY'S WEATHER

High **58**
Low **38**



Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 26

\$5.75 city and suburbs and elsewhere
176th year No. 56
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Local Russians in exile decry war in Ukraine

Anguish still running deep as conflict passes its second anniversary

By Angie Leventis Lourgos
Chicago Tribune

As the Kremlin's missiles and armored tanks descended upon Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, Max Fedoseev was horrified at the terror unleashed by his native Russia.

"It was just so horrible that my country could start a war with neighbors," recalled the 28-year-old Chicago resident, who was born in Russia and lived there during the invasion.

"It was a nightmare."
At his peril, Fedoseev took to the streets of Russia to protest the war and was arrested several times for peacefully demonstrating, he said.

Fearing reprisal for opposing the authoritarian regime of President Vladimir Putin, he fled to seek asylum in the United States,



Lyudmyla Yakhvan, center left, of Harwood Heights, and her daughter Yana Yakhvan, center right, join others Saturday at the Wrigley Building in downtown Chicago to condemn Russia's war on Ukraine on the second anniversary of the invasion. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

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