

Enter search keyword

SEARCH

LNL MOST POPULAR ARTICLES

- + Rhode Island, or outside counsel, ordered to reimburse companies in failed lead paint suit
- + Cuomo may take look at Merrill Lynch bonuses
- + Koster praises FDA decision to allow stem cell trial
- + U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear Mohawk case
- + Poll: Cuomo's approval rating reaches all-time high

Construction Claims

Experts in preparation, analysis, negotiation of construction claims



Houston Wrongful Death

Experienced personal injury lawyers Expert Personal Injury Attorneys

Ads by Google

NEWSLETTER

Receive our FREE weekly newsletter click here

LNL HOT TOPICS

- + Asbestos
- + Big Pharma
- + Class Action
- + Dickie Scruggs
- + Financial Crisis
- + Gasoline Prices
- + Global Warming
- + Hurricane Katrina
- + Lead Paint
- + Personal Injury
- + Sub-Prime Mortgages
- + Tobacco

State AGs

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009 12:03:00 AM

Herman Memorial settles Texas AG's antitrust claims for \$700,000

BY CHRIS RIZO

HOUSTON, Texas (Legal Newsline)-Memorial Hermann Healthcare System in Houston has settled antitrust claims by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, his office announced Monday.

Memorial Hermann was accused of trying to prevent insurers such as Cigna and Aetna from entering into contractual relationships with doctor-owned start up Town & Country Hospital.

The company allegedly told insurers that it would terminate their contracts or would raise their rates if they added Town & Country Hospital to their coverage networks. The hospital went out of business in 2007.

To settle the claims, the company has agreed to pay \$700,000 in costs and will be enjoined for the next five years from entering into any agreements with health care plans to boycott any competing hospitals.

"Free and fair competition is the cornerstone of our free market system," Abbott said. "Today's injunction will preserve healthy competition and will help ensure that Houston-area patients have more hospital choices. Open competition on the free market amongst providers will help improve care, lower prices, and foster greater choices for patients."

Harris County Civil District Judge Sylvia Matthews approved the settlement. Memorial Hermann currently is the largest hospital provider in the Houston area.

"Memorial Hermann's existing contracting practices are consistent with those outlined in the injunction, so we can readily comply with them. We are pleased to resolve this matter," said Hermann Memorial President and CEO Dan Wolterman.

There is a separate lawsuit pending against Memorial Hermann, filed by Town & Country's former doctors. The complaint alleges that Memorial Hermann forced the physician-owned hospital out of business through anti-competitive practices.

Their lawsuit contends that Memorial Hermann coerced insurance companies to boycott Town & Country.

"This is a huge victory for the doctors who built Town & Country Hospital, and for the general public seeking quality health care at competitive prices," attorney Rusty Hardin, who represents the doctors, said of the attorney general's actions.

"The AG's office should be congratulated for taking such a bold, non-political action on behalf of consumers," added Hardin of the Houston law firm of Rusty Hardin & Associates.

From Legal Newsline: Reach reporter Chris Rizo at chrisrizo@legalnewsline.com.

Filed Under: State AGs

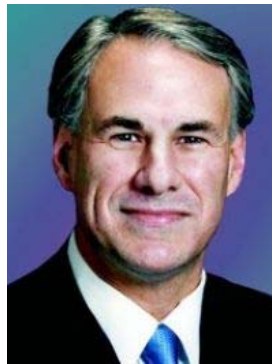
[Technorati Links](#)

COMMENTS ON THIS ARTICLE:

No comments have been posted in the last 15 days!

SEND US YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS ARTICLE:

* - Required fields



Greg Abbott (R)



IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Even bigger bucks coming from Eli Lilly?

CHICAGO (Legal Newsline) - The recent \$1.4 billion settlement into which Eli Lilly & Co. entered with the federal government and more than 30 states may benefit those states that have been holding out on an agreement, a Chicago attorney recently opined. [Read more...](#)



- + [Rhode Island, or outside counsel, ordered to reimburse companies in failed lead paint suit - 1/22](#)
- + [Bottom line in asbestos: A matter of convenience - 1/15](#)
- + [Plaintiffs' attorneys weathered the asbestos political storm - 1/7](#)
- + [40 billion reasons why asbestos litigation will grow - 12/30](#)
- + [High value Madison County asbestos cases like 'steak of the salmon' - 12/19](#)

BROWSE BY STATE:

GO

BROWSE BY AG:

GO

BROWSE BY DATE:

GO

LATEST LNL BLOG ENTRIES:

- + [Abbott's signs of a scam](#)
- + [AG McCollum on convicts in the mortgage industry](#)
- + [Synagro's response to Pa. AG candidate's remarks about sludge](#)

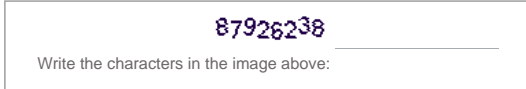
Subject: *

Message: *

Contact Name: *

Contact URL:

Contact Email: *



Write the characters in the image above:

Submit

[E-mail this article to a friend](#) | [Printer friendly format](#)

MORE NEWS HEADLINES:

- + [California AG presses for tuna labeling - 1/28](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [McCollum not happy with Fla. lawmaker - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Obama draws praise from Democratic AGs over emissions standards - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Herman Memorial settles Texas AG's antitrust claims for \\$700,000 - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Shurtleff spent \\$730,000 on re-election bid - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Calif. appeals court to hear canned tuna case - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Kentucky gas stations settle over price gouging claims - 1/27](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Attorneys settle pension abuse allegations with Cuomo - 1/26](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [AG: Michigan taxpayers deserve a massive tax refund - 1/26](#) [READ MORE](#)
- + [Colorado AG says he won't run for U.S. Senate, governor - 1/26](#) [READ MORE](#)



Ads by Google

Antitrust?
Victim of Unfair Competition? Our Experienced Law Firm Can Help.
[AntiTrustFirm.com](#)

Asbestos Claim
California
Asbestos Cancer
Claim Asbestos
Mesothelioma
Legal Claim
[MesotheliomaAsbestosC](#)

Class Action Settlements
Find Out What You Can Claim! 100% Free and Easy, Stake Your Claim Now
[www.TopClassActions.cc](#)

Asbestos Attorney Texas
Find Top Local Asbestos Attorneys in your area at [Superpages.com](#)
[www.Superpages.com](#)

Ads by Google 

Asbestos Claims

California Asbestos
Cancer Claims
Asbestos
Mesothelioma Legal
Claims
MesotheliomaAsbestosC

Emdeon Office

Patient eligibility,
claim submission and
tracking online!
www.emdeon.com/office

[NEWS](#) | [CONTACT](#) [LEGALNEWSLINE](#) | [ABOUT US](#) | [ADVERTISE](#) | [RSS](#)

© 2008 LegalNewsLine.com. All Rights Reserved.