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News Release – For Immediate Release

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McLeod Law Group Files Lawsuit Against Roper St. Frances Health Care on behalf of Bacterial Infection Victim

Charleston, SC - Today the McLeod Law Group filed a lawsuit on behalf of Leslie and Joey Amerson against Roper St. Frances Health Care. Leslie Amerson, a former patient at Roper hospital's main downtown Charleston campus, was infected with Mycobacterium Fortuitum while undergoing a breast reconstruction surgical procedure following breast cancer in December, 2015. She was forced to endure additional surgeries to treat her infection. Of note, her physician decided to perform her subsequent surgeries at Roper Hospital Mount Pleasant rather than at Roper Hospital Downtown.

Between 2011 and 2016, more than two dozen women experienced dangerous infections after similar procedures at the same hospital. As a result, in 2016, both the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention investigated the Roper Hospital downtown. The investigation revealed lapses in infection control practices during observed procedures at Roper Hospital and evidence of bacterial growth in the water.

Mrs. Amerson alleges that Roper Hospital and other Defendants departed from multiple prevailing and acceptable standards of care and treatment including, but not limited to, failing to have proper infection control policies in place and if in place at all, failing to use them properly; failing to have in place policies and procedures to train and/ or monitor their employees; and allowing infectious agents into a sterile field during a surgical procedure.

As stated in the lawsuit:

“As a direct and proximate result of these negligent, careless, grossly negligent, and reckless departures from the prevailing and acceptable standards of care, Mrs. Amerson suffered severe, debilitating injuries that caused her pain and suffering and unnecessary medical expense from the additional procedures and treatments she endured. Mrs. Amerson is therefore entitled to recover from Defendants a sum of money to compensate her for all damages in an amount determined by a jury at trial.”

McLeod Law Group lawyer Cooper Wilson is the lead attorney for this case. “Women who need medical treatment to treat breast cancer - or any medical condition really - should not have to worry whether they will be exposed to serious infections due to dirty water in the hospital,” Wilson said.

A copy of today’s filing is attached.

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