



# Your Legal Rights



by **George Allen Moore**  
**Injury Attorney**

## **NO DUMPING!**

The Emergency Treatment and Active Labor Act makes it unlawful to "dump" a person who has sought emergency room treatment based on his or her ability to pay. This law addresses the very unfortunate circumstance in which many elderly individuals who are without health insurance turn to local hospital emergency rooms for their primary health care. While this is far from an ideal situation, the federal "anti-dumping" law requires emergency rooms to treat anyone with an urgent medical problem. Patients in need of emergency care cannot be transferred to a different facility unless they are in stable condition or a physician determines that the benefits of transfer outweigh the risk and

the receiving hospital has agreed to accept the patient.

When you are involved in a legal issue, it is crucial to have a professional on your side that knows the specific laws and regulations particular to your case. For an appointment to discuss your legal matter, call our office to set up a free initial consultation. Personal injury cases are our specialty and for your convenience, we offer hospital and in-home visits.

**HINT:** If an emergency room doctor does not make an examination to determine appropriate treatment and a patient suffers damage as a result, the patient may have grounds for a malpractice suit against the hospital

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