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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Romanucci & Blandin, LLC and The Center for Public Integrity Uncover Major Disparities in Nursing Home Care

*Personal Injury Law Firm Files Civil Lawsuit on Behalf of Mary Mims Alleging Wrongful Death
Against Chicago Nursing Home Care Facility*

CHICAGO – (Nov. 19, 2014) Attorneys for private citizen, Mary Mims, announced the filing of a civil lawsuit against Chicago-based Alden Wentworth Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, Inc. and its liability company for negligence and wrongful death of 36-year-old Chicago resident Letasha Mims, daughter of Mary Mims. The lawsuit reflects the [findings by The Center for Public Integrity](#) that show nursing home care serving minorities in Illinois, offer substantially less quality care than those serving whites.

In its findings released in a three-part series this week, the Center uncovered that majority-white nursing homes had average registered nurse care levels 60 percent higher than Latino-majority homes and 34 percent higher than black facilities. Illinois, along with Michigan and Wisconsin, were among the states with the highest disparities between black and white nursing homes. Also, Chicago and Houston had the greatest gaps in registered nurse staffing levels between black and white-majority facilities. Alden Wentworth, a majority black facility and where Letasha Mims resided for almost two years, listed registered nurse staffing levels in 2012 that were among the lowest 17 percent of more than 15,000 nursing home care facilities nationwide.

The legal complaint states that from April 2012 through February 2014, Letasha Mims was a resident of Alden-Wentworth Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Chicago. Upon admission to the facility, Letasha suffered from depression, deep psychosis, dementia, expressive language disorder (nonverbal mute) and seizure disorder among several mental and emotional disabilities, which required assistance with all activities of daily living. From the beginning of her stay at Alden-Wentworth and throughout its entirety, Letasha developed and suffered multiple pressure ulcers that worsened over time, body rashes, skin lesions, gangrenous toes and feet, body weight and muscle loss of approximately 60 pounds, and teeth deterioration. Letasha also experienced rodent feces in her linens, soiled diapers and linens, and failed to receive proper supervision to prevent her from placing objects, including her feces and a hard metal call button, inside her mouth.

As a direct and approximate result of the Alden-Wentworth's negligence and/or omission in providing care, Letasha sustained injuries that contributed to her death on Aug. 22, 2014.

Plaintiff Mary Mims seeks judgment against Alden Wentworth Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center and its liability company, plus compensatory damages and attorney's fees and costs. The lawsuit is civil action No: 2014L011878.

About Romanucci & Blandin, LLC

Romanucci & Blandin has been rated as a leading civil trial practice law firm in Chicago centering in personal injury and police misconduct. The attorneys at the Chicago law firm represent individuals and their families in catastrophic personal injury matters, wrongful death and workers' compensation cases. The cases

that are referred to Romanucci & Blandin involve accidents or injuries which occurred due to negligence and carelessness on the part of individuals, governmental bodies and corporations of all sizes. Since its inception more than 15 years ago, Romanucci & Blandin has secured more than \$300 million in verdicts and settlements on behalf of their clients. For more information about Romanucci & Blandin, please visit www.rblaw.net or call (312) 458-1000.

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