

**PRESS RELEASE:**

**Kaiser hit with lawsuit for denying legally mandated health care to 57,000 of its most vulnerable patients, the chronically disabled and other "special needs patients" because it just didn't want to spend the money!**

**When:** October 7, 2010

**Where:** LA County Court House (Front Steps) 111  
N. Hill St., Los Angeles, California

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Charles T. Mathews, Esq., Counsel for  
Plaintiffs 626-683-8291

Tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m., Dr. Richard Della Penna M.D., a former Kaiser physician and one of America's leading medical experts in Elder Care and the treatment of Special Needs Patients ("SNP's") will file a lawsuit against Kaiser Permanente including The Permanente Federation, LLC, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., and Kaiser Foundation hospitals as a result of Kaiser's calculated plan to deny legally mandated proper treatment to approximately 57,000 seriously disabled and chronically ill patients in California, Colorado and Georgia because it just didn't want to spend the money.

Dr. Della Penna's lawsuit charges that despite receiving \$13 BILLION dollars in Medicare money, Kaiser intentionally violated and continues to violate federal laws (the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 and the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008) by denying these vulnerable

patients crucial annual physical, functional and psychosocial assessments and a proper plan for the care and treatment of these Kaiser members.

Dr. Della Penna charges that despite his efforts to have Kaiser comply with these laws, Kaiser made the conscious decision to provide these required services to only 5% of these vulnerable patents so that they could showcase them to regulators when and if they were questioned.

He further alleges that when he complained to Kaiser about its failure to take proper care of these Special Needs Patients and complained about Kaiser's failure to provide properly trained and credentialed staff to provide palliative care to patients with advanced illnesses, those near death and their families, he was rebuffed, isolated, marginalized and ultimately forced to resign.

Dr. Della Penna's lawsuit seeks to force Kaiser to deliver to these disabled patients and their families the kind and quality of care that it promises when lures people to join and claims that it wants them to "Thrive."

Dr. Della Penna's attorney, Charles T. Mathews, Esq. will be available to discuss the case immediately after it is filed. He will also ask any Special Needs Patients and/or the families of patients requiring Palliative Care (those near death or afflicted with terminal disease) to contact his office so that efforts can be made to compel Kaiser to get them the required care.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: Charles T. Mathews  
& Associates 626-683-8291**