

## **False Imprisonment: Nursing Home Patient Can Sue.**

The Court of Appeals of Michigan ruled that a nursing home cannot rely solely on the statements of other persons about a resident's mental competency in deciding to hold a resident against his expressed wishes, or the resident can file a civil lawsuit for false imprisonment.

Nursing home staff have a legal duty to make and act upon their own independent evaluation of the resident's mental status, the court said. **Williams v. Fairlane Memorial Convalescent Home, 2007 WL 750387 (Mich. App., March 13, 2007).**