

Heat Wave, No Air Conditioning: Dehydrated Patient Dies.

The family accepted a \$300,000 settlement of their lawsuit filed in the Superior Court, Los Angeles County, California, from a long-term nursing care facility after their family member, thirty-six years old and in a persistent vegetative state following a motor vehicle accident, died from dehydration after the air conditioning failed during a four-day heat wave during which temperatures reached 106°F.

The nursing home reportedly opened up the doors and windows, but that did not reduce the temperature inside and only let insects into the building which swarmed around the helpless patient. **Confidential v. Confidential**, 2009 WL 4229253 (Sup. Ct., Los Angeles Co., California, August 1, 2009).