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For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**South Florida Law Firm *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene* Offers Around-the-Clock
Free Legal Advice to Broward General Contaminated IV Patients**

Fort Lauderdale, Florida (October 6, 2009) — Last night's NBC/WTVJ 6 Miami 7p.m. news broadcast broke the story of contaminated IV bags at Broward General. "Broward health officials have confirmed that a veteran nurse may have used IV bags contaminated with other patients' fluids while administering saline solution to patients who came to the hospital for cardiac chemical stress tests. ...the nurse routinely used the same bag on different patients. As many as 1,850 patients may have been impacted."

www.nbcmiami.com/news/local-beat/Another-Contaminated-Equipment-Scare-at-South-Florida-Hospital-63539582.html

Last weekend, Broward General Hospital sent thousands of letters to potential victims of this bodily fluid backflow scare asking that the patients contact a physician immediately to administer hepatitis B and C and HIV/AIDS screenings. Managing Partner William McAfee of the Fort Lauderdale law office *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene* notes, "Preventable medical errors are the cause of up to 98,000 deaths in the United States annually. These preventable errors cost society up to \$29 billion dollars in a single year; but it's the lives of innocent people who pay the ultimate price. We want to help those people recoup their quality of life."

<http://www.citizen.org/congress/civjus/medmal/articles.cfm?ID=9125>

The Agency for Health Care Administration reports that only one in six medical errors in Florida hospitals are ever even filed. According to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) data, upwards of \$1.6 billion in disability, healthcare and lost income costs resulted from medical malpractice in Florida in a single year.

<http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/release.cfm?ID=1289>

In an effort to educate and protect the Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, and South Florida communities at large, *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene* is offering free around-the-clock legal advice to any of the potentially infected Broward General Medical Center patients. By calling 800-561-1111 callers will be connected with a legal intake professional directly—24/7. Michael Steinger, founding partner of *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene*, said, "Our firm is actively investigating cases of possible contamination from IV fluid transfers at Broward General. Patients who received the IV may be at risk for contracting Hepatitis or HIV/AIDS. Our firm wants to help in any way we can during this time - 12 years and 18,000 clients strong, we want to lend our legal experience to those who need it the most right now."

The recent medical error of the veteran Broward General nurse that may result in the transfer of hepatitis and/or HIV/AIDS follows by only months after another South Florida hospital negligence case that required the medical screening of nearly 10,000 veterans who came to VA hospitals for standard colonoscopy procedures.

www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/03/24/florida.va.facilities/index.html

According to CNN (April 7, 2009, www.cnn.com/2009/US/04/07/va.investigation/index.html), "in a letter to Gen. Eric Shinseki, the secretary of Veterans Affairs, Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Florida, requested that the VA Office of Inspector General 'begin an investigation into the potential problems of contamination; whether any patient has contracted an infection from unsterilized equipment; and, most importantly, how we can prevent such problems from happening again.'" It seems the precautionary measures to which Sen. Bill Nelson aspired in his statement of this past Spring did not come soon enough, and the same fears of patient bodily fluid transfer due to lax sterilization procedures is all too real for an estimated 1,850 innocent South Florida residents.

About ***Steinger, Iscoe & Greene***,

Founded in 1997, *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene* is one of the leading plaintiffs' litigation law firms in North America. A legal team of 26 attorneys and 100 legal staff, *Steinger, Iscoe & Greene* has represented more than 18,000 injury victims to date, with offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Port St Lucie. The Firm provides legal representation to Florida accident and injury victims specializing in auto, motorcycle, and truck accidents, defective products, premises liability, workers' compensation, wrongful death and catastrophic injuries. For more information, visit www.InjuryLawyers.com