



Patient Lawsuits Against Endoscopy Clinics Move Forward

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The U.S. Bankruptcy court has lifted a stay that brought a halt to lawsuits filed against local endoscopy clinics following a major health alert. This will allow for three of those lawsuits to now move forward.

The clinics in question are owned by Dr. Dipek Desai who came under fire for using unsafe injection practices that resulted in some people contracting hepatitis C. The three clinics involved were: Endoscopy Center of Southern Nevada, Gastroenterology Center of Nevada and Desert Shadow Endoscopy Center.

Desai had filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection in July.

Among those suing Dr. Desai is Michael Washington, the first patient to test positive for hepatitis C after undergoing a procedure with Dr. Desai. He was originally scheduled to go to trial in October. His case is one of those that will be allowed to proceed.

"Thankfully, we were able to overcome the latest delay tactic of Dr. Desai to claim bankruptcy and prevent his patients from having their day in court," said Edward Bernstein, Washington's attorney.