

# JUSTICE FOR JASMINE



In November, 2014, 21-year-old Jasmine delivered her first child, Benjamin. It was recommended that she receive a flu shot to protect her son. Six weeks later, Jasmine was paralyzed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome. She lived for years with paralysis, chronic pain, seizures, strokes, anxiety and depression. In July, 2019 she passed away due to complications of GBS. The following are ways the law and medical system failed Jasmine and her family.

## 1 INSUFFICIENT INFORMED CONSENT

Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) is an autoimmune reaction that causes inflammation and damage to peripheral nerves leading to paralysis and sensory disturbances. It is a known and compensated table injury in the Federal Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. The Federal government knows that the flu shot can cause GBS in some individuals. Jasmine was never informed that GBS was a potential risk or what the signs and symptoms of GBS are (numbness, tingling, stumbling- all that she dealt with.)

## 2 FRAGMENTATION OF CARE

Like most victims of vaccine injury, the person that administered the vaccine to Jasmine was never made aware of what happened to her. We hear repeatedly from vaccine administrators that they do not see injuries. This is because the victims end up in the Emergency Room. Some states are implementing new laws to start their own state level monitoring of vaccine injuries. Vaccine administrators should be alerted if one of their patients is injured.

## 3 MISDIAGNOSIS

In a Maryland hospital, Jasmine was initially diagnosed with a mental illness, Conversion Disorder, and placed in a Psychiatric Unit. This is a common misdiagnosis for the very real physical injuries caused by vaccines. Our doctors and nurses need more training on diagnosing and reporting vaccine injuries. Jasmine told her mother she felt she was discriminated against because of the color of her skin.

## 4 DELAY OF TREATMENT

Because Jasmine was misdiagnosed, she received treatment later than she should have. While she was given IVIG, Intravenous Immunoglobulin, it needs to be given as early as possible for the best treatment outcome. Jasmine's delay of diagnosis also prevented her family from being able to file for the compensation that she was entitled to through the Federal VICP.

## 5 COMPENSATION

Not one care provider told Jasmine or her family that she was eligible for compensation by the Federal government for her injury. Vaccine manufacturers have TOTAL IMMUNITY for their products. There is a tax on every vaccine that goes into the Federal Vaccine Injury Compensation program. Over \$5.8 BILLION in damages has been paid out to the injured and deceased. The maximum payment for a deceased loved one is \$250,000. Sadly, very few care providers tell their patients about this program and due to strict filing deadlines, most find out about it after the deadline to file has passed.

## 6 NO RESOURCES OR SUPPORT

Due to her age, Jasmine was able to remain on her mother's insurance. Her mother, Tina, was blessed to have a job that allowed her to take on full time care of her severely disabled daughter. Jasmine found no support from the State of Maryland for her disabilities. Most families do not have the resources to pay for the care of loved ones after their vaccine injuries. It is economically catastrophic for their families.

