

CROWNSVILLE, MARYLAND, February 29, 2024 –Co-Counsel [ASK LLP](#) and [GOLDMAN & VAN BEEK](#) have filed a lawsuit in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, on behalf of a former child patient suing Crownsville State Hospital alleging that she was repeatedly raped and sexually abused by an employee. The horrific abuse occurred when the patient entered the facility as a 16-year-old in 2006.

[Attorney Judie Saunders](#), co-counsel for the plaintiff and a Partner with ASK LLP, filed the lawsuit in Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County under Maryland's Child Victims Act along with Maryland attorney John P. Van Beek. The complaint seeks damages, including punitive damages for the egregious abuse and injuries suffered by the plaintiff. The Complaint alleges that the State of Maryland failed to take reasonable measures to prevent the sexual abuse, molestation, and harassment of minor children, including the plaintiff.

Attorney Saunders stated that, “Crownsville State Hospital is part of our collective history and is important because of the far-reaching negative impact this institution had not only in this plaintiff, but also countless African American men, women, and children. The State of Maryland and Crownsville Hospital, engaged in callous segregation practices and for decades allowed Crownsville’s patients to be experimented on, tortured, abused, and neglected.”

According to the Complaint, Crownsville State Hospital employee’s acts of sexual assault and abuse against the Plaintiff, included conduct which constitutes criminal sexual contact under Criminal Law §3-307 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

"The pattern of sexual abuse at Crownsville was deeply entrenched. Nothing honors the lives, work, and healing of African Americans than uncovering and addressing historical wrongs" said Saunders

SOURCE ASK LLP