

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of March 10 to March 16, 2017

In this week's newsfeed, you will note several egregious cases of physical assault, financial exploitation by professionals, and some interesting legal decisions. An unusual number of assault by special education teachers.

This list was compiled by Jennifer Palmer, edited by Nora Baladerian and Tom Coleman, who posts this on our website, www.disabilityandabuse.org.

This week's articles include the following:

Sexual Assault: 15, 26, 29

Physical Assault: 5, 7, 19, 22/23

Financial abuse: 16

Legal issues: 8, 12, 33, 20

Guardianship: 16

Special education teacher as abuser: 5, 7, 19, 26, 29

Abuse and Neglect

1. **Disabled man, 2 firemen hospitalized after house fire.** A wheelchair user and two firemen were hospitalized after house fire in Birmingham's 44th Avenue North Saturday morning. wbr.com, March 11 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/fd4VX9>
2. **Airport shooting suspect is being treated for schizophrenia, defense team says.** Airport mass shooting suspect Esteban Santiago is being treated for two severe mental health conditions that can cause people to lose touch with reality, but he remains legally competent to stand trial, court records show. sun-sentinel.com, March 13 (Arizona) <https://is.gd/JMmPSN>
3. **Group of Quadriplegics Getting Evicted From Granada Hills Home.** Eight quadriplegics say they are facing eviction from a Granada Hills home with no explanation. The owner of the wheelchair-accessible Freedom to Live House has asked the group to move out. losangeles.cbslocal.com, March 10 (California) <https://is.gd/ErH4nQ>
4. **Fairfield Police: Man Used Dead Woman's Tag to Snag Handicapped Parking.** A Fairfield man was given a \$150 ticket after he used his neighbor's dead mother's handicapped placard to park in handicapped spaces at the Fairfield train station, police said. westport.dailyvoice.com, March 13 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/hLLqgh>
5. **Fla. elementary teacher fired for grabbing, biting special-needs student.** A teacher in Palm Bay lost her job on Tuesday after the school board voted to fire her for a 2015 incident where she bit one of her special-needs students. Palm Beach Post, March 16 (Florida) <https://is.gd/wodVUu>
6. **Woman in wheelchair struck in Miami hit-and-run crash.** Witnesses say driver returned to scene moments after crash before fleeing again. local10.com, March 11 (Florida) <https://is.gd/NxY8SE>
7. **Cops: Ex-teacher pulled chair from under special needs student.** Paulding County authorities arrested a teacher they say pulled a chair from under a special needs student, Channel 2 Action News reported. ajc.com, March 9 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/gaNqDY>

8. **Suit: CPS student must get out of wheelchair, push self up stairs.** A Chicago Public Schools student has to get out of her wheelchair and push herself up and down stairs at her North Side magnet school because the building is not compliant with federal disability law, according to a lawsuit. chicago.suntimes.com, March 10 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/KqhTCI>
9. **Handicapped scooter struck by hit-and-run driver.** Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident involving a car and motorized handicap scooter that was crossing the street. The Hutchison News, March 10 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/hYu6df>
10. **Police: Daughter arrested after neglecting elderly mother in deplorable home.** Franklin County Sheriff Pat Melton calls it one of the worst homes in terms of filth that many of his deputies have ever seen. wkyt.com, March 8 (Kentucky) <https://is.gd/DMqwFT>
11. **Blind woman claims she was kicked off American Airlines flight with service dog.** A blind woman from Maine says she won't be flying American Airlines anytime soon after the legacy carrier allegedly failed to accommodate her service dog. foxnews.com, March 14 (Maine) <https://is.gd/3U6q0R>
12. **Arson charges against Waterville woman in group home fire dismissed.** A judge concluded that Jean M. Rowe was mentally incompetent to face criminal charges in connection with setting fire to items in her bedroom last April at a Motivational Services group home. centralmaine.com, March 10 (Maine) <https://is.gd/M7STww>
13. **Murder suspect found not guilty due to insanity.** A Kalamazoo man has been found not guilty by reason of insanity for the 2015 stabbing death of 62-year-old Debra Jean, wincountry.com, March 14 (Michigan) <https://is.gd/Mw2gVt>
14. **Shannon woman charged with exploitation of vulnerable person.** A Lee County woman surrendered to authorities Monday on a felony charge of the exploitation of a vulnerable person. is.gd, March 14 (Mississippi) <https://djournal.com/news/shannon-woman-charged-exploitation-vulnerable-person/>
15. **Las Vegas men arrested for allegedly encouraging teens to rape special education student.** Two men are accused of sexually assaulting a teenage girl who has special needs, and they allegedly encouraged several teen boys to assault the girl as well. fox13now.com, March 11 (Nevada) <https://is.gd/zulWsi>
16. **Clark County grand jury indicts woman in guardianship abuse case.** A Clark County grand jury Thursday charged a woman with more than 40 crimes

after allegations that she stole more than \$50,000 from the special-needs trust of a disabled man in her care, according to the Clark County district attorney's office. reviewjournal.com, March 9 (Nevada) <https://is.gd/MWj54s>

17. 14-year-old missing from Millstone group home. A 14-year-old girl who was last seen at a group home in Millstone Township on March 1 has been missing for more than two weeks, State Police said. app.com, March 16 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/vZfkuX>

18. Scathing Report Faults NY Agency That Protects People With Disabilities. A BuzzFeed News investigation showed the vast state agency left people with disabilities vulnerable to abuse and neglect. Now lawmakers are promising to take a harder look — or to eliminate it altogether. buzzfeed.com, March 13 (New York) <https://is.gd/jnD3Ym>

19. Mom speaks out after special needs teacher accused of assaulting handicapped child. A special needs teacher in Gaston County is facing charges after she is accused of assaulting a handicapped child. wbtv.com, March 13 (North Carolina) <https://is.gd/ohRfqj>

20. Butler County baseball fields for special needs kids vandalized. The start of a new season for Butler County Challenger Baseball always comes with fun surprises for children in the league that caters to those with Down syndrome, autism, muscular deficiencies and other special needs. Journal-News, March 8 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/3mmaWg>

21. Boy who shot, killed 13-year-old friend sentenced to group home. A 15-year-old boy who pleaded guilty to shooting and killing a 13-year-old friend in a Mount Pleasant home was sentenced Friday to a group home. wpxi.com, March 10 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/GRM8RA>

22. Cops find autistic teen with bound feet out in cold. Philadelphia police say they're investigating how a 16-year-old boy with autism wound up left out in the cold with his feet bound. ydr.com, March 13 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/FIloRf>

23. AUTISTIC TEEN BOY FOUND BOUND, BRUISED BETWEEN 2 ROW HOMES IN MANTUA. Philadelphia police are investigating after a 16-year-old autistic boy was found bound and bruised in the city's Mantua section. 6abc.com, March 12 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/FpJWSD>

24. Local mom says disabled son was refused handicap accessible seat. A local mom is devastated over what she says her son in a wheelchair had to go

- through. She claims two moviegoers denied him a handicap accessible seat. fox29.com, March 16 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/1NYQXj>
- 25. Fire destroys Pawtucket group home; no injuries.** A fire engulfed a three-story structure on North Bend Street, destroying the home Saturday afternoon, according to WPRI. Wind and freezing temperatures made it difficult for firefighters to fight the blaze. providencejournal.com, March 12 (Rhode Island) <https://is.gd/467XUk>
- 26. Special-ed teacher charged with child porn worked in several R.I. districts.** A 54-year-old West Warwick man, who taught in Rhode Island and Massachusetts schools for nearly three decades, told investigators he had downloaded child pornography "as recently as last night," prosecutors said at his arraignment Thursday. providencejournal.com, March 16 (Rhode Island) <https://is.gd/Jngfia>
- 27.2 Teens Steal Van From Group Home In Sevier County; Lead Officers On Chase That Ends With Crash Near Chickamauga Dam.** Two teens stole a van from a group home on Sunday and led officers on a chase that ended in a crash near Chickamauga Dam on Sunday night. chattanooga.com, March 15 (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/vowAuP>
- 28. KPD finds stolen Knox County special education bus.** The Knoxville Police Department found a Knox County Schools special education bus Tuesday morning that was reported stolen Monday morning at a storage unit on Lovell Road. local8now.com, March 14 (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/g2D7bL>
- 29. Teacher accused of inappropriately touching special needs student appears in court.** A former Houston Independent School District teacher appeared in court after he was charged with improper relationship with a student when authorities said he touched a nonverbal special-needs student underneath her pants on Feb. 3. click2houston.com, March 10 (Texas) <https://is.gd/UOSpdB>
- 30. Norfolk officers cleared in fatal shooting of mentally ill man who attacked with a knife.** Two police officers killed a mentally ill man who attacked them with a knife because they had no choice, the Norfolk commonwealth's attorney said Thursday. pilotonline.com, March 9 (Virginia) <https://is.gd/j2Xla4>
- 31. Autistic boy dies after routine dental procedure, report says.** A Washington family is seeking answers after their 4-year-old son died Friday during a seemingly routine dental procedure that reportedly involved a shot of anesthesia. foxnews.com, March 14 (Washington) <https://is.gd/XvzJbo>

32. **Good Samaritan tries to help woman struck, killed in wheelchair.** Denice Fells killed Saturday night at 17th, Vliet streets. wisn.com, March 9 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/lc009L>
33. **State hires convicted supervisor to work with the mentally disabled.** A state center for the mentally disabled has hired a new supervisor who has been investigated for four serious offenses and convicted of two over the past 11 years. jsonline.com, March 14 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/Ajl6W0>

Improved Supports

34. **KosAbility Schedule: Beasts of Burden - how animal and disability rights coincide.** “Is this early onset Alzheimers or the result of 20 plus years on psychotropic meds for depression and anxiety?” For March’s KosAbility meeting, boatsie relates medical testing and recommendations she received in answer to her question. Daily Kos, March 12. <https://is.gd/iG4pUe>
35. **Helping Children Recover From Traumatic Brain Injuries.** Researchers say a biomarker may be able to identify which children will have more trouble recovering from a serious brain injury. healthline.com, March 15. <https://is.gd/IIPTI9>
36. **A Non-traditional Approach to Diagnosis.** Despite continued advances in the field, a number of diseases still lack reliable diagnostic tests. Increased understanding and use of chemical information is one area that could help in the development of new and more effective diagnostic tests and devices. technologynetworks.com, March 10. <https://is.gd/HipToT>
37. **Help Me Grow Alabama assists in identifying developmental delays through local screening.** Twenty percent of all children from birth to age eight are at risk for developmental delays. dothanfirst.com, March 14 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/t56rdG>
38. **Tools to help find the missing: Project Lifesaver can make a big difference for vulnerable people.** There are few times when a person feels more helpless than when looking for a family member who has gone missing. That feeling of helplessness is compounded when the person missing is in a vulnerable state, whether because of physical or mental disability, age or health concerns. newsminer.com, March 12 (Alaska) <https://is.gd/Q9jveJ>
39. **NWA Woman wants to end Illegal Parking in Handicapped Spots with an App.** It's something everyone struggles with, finding a parking spot. However, the problem is even tougher for those that require a handicapped spot when drivers

that don't really need it take their space. nwahomepage.com, March 12 (Arkansas) <https://is.gd/BJGP90>

40. **Navajo Special-Education School To Get Clean Water.** Saint Michael's Association for Special Education started more than four decades ago when Marijane Ryan, a nun and nurse, was convinced she could help a Navajo boy with polio. fronteradesk.org, March 16 (Arizona) <https://is.gd/noHvlq>
41. **Help mentally ill with police training and treatment, not jail.** Violent encounters between police and individuals with mental illness — Sean Moore in San Francisco and Joseph Mann in Sacramento — have highlighted the use of lethal force. San Francisco Chronicle, March 9 (California) <https://is.gd/eqVyba>
42. **Health care plan for Developmental Center residents.** The contract to provide specialized healthcare services for Sonoma County residents with developmental disabilities, including 350 from the Sonoma Developmental Center, has been awarded. sonomasun.com, March 11 (California) <https://is.gd/H0cape>
43. **New Santa Rosa Community Health Centers clinic to care for developmentally disabled.** Santa Rosa Community Health Centers has landed a \$2.5 million contract to provide specialized services to Sonoma Developmental Center residents affected by the facility's planned closure. pressdemocrat.com, March 10 (California) <https://is.gd/UWPY0m>
44. **State grant would help Santa Barbara County keep mentally ill out of jail.** \$3.4M in Prop. 47 monies would be used to start pilot program. Lompoc Record, March 12 (California) <https://is.gd/9NrZPf>
45. **Fresno airport offering help to developmentally disabled flyers.** For children and adults who are autistic or suffer from other developmental disabilities, what is supposed to be a pleasant trip by plane can end up being a difficult or downright traumatic experience for them and their families. thebusinessjournal.com, March 15 (California) <https://is.gd/OB6lqq>
46. **Wilton explores new way to fully fund special education.** As the town faces the prospect of losing more than \$800,000 in special education funding for the 2017-18 school year, Superintendent of Schools Kevin Smith is looking into a plan that proposes 100 percent reimbursement. The Hour, March 10 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/tJHfp3>
47. **Autism Conference Looks at Science, Culture, and Communities of ASD.** The prevalence of autism in the United States is today estimated by the CDC to be about one in every 68 births. wgcu.org, March 10 (Florida) <https://is.gd/sgmPTS>

- 48. Fitness for those with disabilities.** Kids with disabilities like autism and down syndrome and adults with Parkinson's are the focus of unique fitness classes that are changing lives at Beyond Fitness, a specialty gym in Delray Beach. cbs12.com, March 11 (Florida) <https://is.gd/NI52wG>
- 49. Program for Kids With Disabilities Closing Down Over Funds.** An Oahu after-school and summer program for youths with disabilities is shutting down at the end of the month due to a lack of funds, leaving families scrambling to find alternatives. usnews.com, March 13 (Hawaii) <https://is.gd/YHOei9>
- 50. Ice Cube's autistic nephew inspires launch of limited edition clothing line for Autism Speaks.** Legendary rapper and actor Ice Cube set out to make it a "good day" and great two weeks for families impacted by autism. Chicago Crusader, March 13 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/IP7WXF>
- 51. New IDs foster communication between drivers with disabilities, police.** The new Person with a Disability Wallet Card is available at any secretary of state's driver's services facility for people diagnosed with an intellectual, developmental or mental condition. dailyherald.com, March 13 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/CL2BSL>
- 52. Special Report: Wheelchair basketball phenom.** A South Spencer High School student is getting a lot of attention for her basketball skills. 14news.com, March 9 (Indiana) <https://is.gd/s95aap>
- 53. Iowa's metro school districts studying use of seclusion for student behavior.** Waterloo schools hiring consultant to review issues, including racial disparities. The Gazette, March 11 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/1Gqj2H>
- 54. For kids with autism, shifting to Daylight Saving Time is time of angst.** Shift to daylight saving time can mean weeks of adjustment. The Gazette, March 12 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/irSi8E>
- 55. Dubuque approves park plans for children with disabilities.** Dubuque officials have approved plans for an all-inclusive field at a city park, supporting an effort to build a leveled, rubberized surface that could be used by children who have disabilities. kcci.com, March 12 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/BI2dFO>
- 56. Deaf Iowans deserve better.** I was recently notified that the full-time disabilities consultant with the Department of Deaf Services is being terminated at the end of the month due to "necessary" budget cuts. desmoinesregister.com, March 12 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/YaKV4Q>

- 57. Overland Park nonprofit helps employ people with developmental disabilities.** For Peter Schuellein, the job is simple. “We work together. We’re a team,” said the Heartstrings Goody Delivery salesman. kshb.com, March 14 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/KCJh1J>
- 58. City plans show handicap accessible ramps long overdue.** An intersection people have been complaining about should have been fixed years ago. It deals with making sidewalks handicap accessible along North Street in Baton Rouge. wbrz.com, March 10 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/0iR2q8>
- 59. Donations Accepted for Special Education Programs in Clark; Kumpf Remains 'School to Watch'.** The Clark Board of Education accepted generous donations towards Arthur L. Johnson High School’s two new special education programs at last week’s meeting. tapinto.net, March 13 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/3YnyWB>
- 60. New Rochelle police get creative for autism awareness.** Police and emergency vehicles across the region will be a bit more colorful this spring. lohud.com, March 13 (New York) <https://is.gd/UFye3B>
- 61. Hempstead awards \$10G grant to wheelchair basketball team.** Hempstead Town has awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Nassau Kings wheelchair basketball team, according to a news release. newsday.com, March 10 (New York) <https://is.gd/iKks2D>
- 62. Advocates seek \$28 million for psychiatric rehabilitation services.** Representatives from the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS) joined with more than 100 direct care staff and mental health advocates to rally on the steps of the Capitol last Wednesday to call on lawmakers to increase funding for mental health recovery assisted living programs. legislativegazette.com, March 23 (New York) <https://is.gd/4JsUUx>
- 63. Ombudsman watch for abuse, neglect.** As advocates for the residents of long-term care facilities, the Long Term Care Ombudsman Office takes very seriously allegations and signs of resident abuse and neglect, a news release states. muskogeephoenix.com, March 13 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/3hFisG>
- 64. Northwest Bank donates \$25K to The Guidance Center for psychiatric needs.** Northwest Bank has made a large donation to The Guidance Center to help address psychiatric needs in McKean County. bradfordera.com, March 11 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/TL2Y3h>

- 65. Greene Valley Population To Drop As More Group Homes Open.** The population at Greene Valley Developmental Center will soon drop to just over two dozen as three more community-based group homes open. greenevillesun.com, March 16 (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/Pc8fMg>
- 66. Job Accommodation Network Helps Improve Work Conditions for Employees with Disabilities.** Tucked away in Morgantown, W.Va., just off the campus of West Virginia University (WVU), is a federal government service with 27 employees who educate private employers on reasonable workplace accommodations and advocate on behalf of people with disabilities and health conditions. shrm.org, March 19 (West Virginia) <https://is.gd/6UGYat>
- 67. Kiwanis unlock communication barrier for children with autism via iPad program.** The Kiwanis Club of Prairie du Chien is helping to unlock the communication barrier for children with autism. guttenbergpress.com, March 13 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/orB1aI>
- 68. Thousands prescribed too much medicine.** How common is it for a psychiatric patient to be overmedicated? Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, March 15 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/Fs3V72>

Law and Legislation

- 69. How the GOP health plan would 'devastate' mentally ill, addicted.** By now, the Congressional Budget Office's assessment of the proposed American Health Care Act's impact on health coverage in the US is well-known. aol.com, March 14. <https://is.gd/oveXHH>
- 70. Alabama lawmakers and lobbyists clash over care for autistic children.** A bill to require insurance coverage for therapy for children with autism faces an uncertain future after the House Insurance committee chair, Rep. Kerry Rich, R-Albertville, this week called for compromise. al.com, March 11 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/LlviTJ>
- 71. Encouragement, And Challenges, For 'Truly Independent' Disability-Rights Group.** Speakers at a public hearing Friday heaped encouragement on the members of a new disability-rights group – formed after the state's advocacy role was shifted to the private sector – but they also outlined challenges. Hartford Courant, March 10 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/VwlBwp>
- 72. Insurance would cover autism treatment under bill approved by Iowa House.** The Iowa House of Representatives voted unanimously Wednesday to require that insurance companies cover a treatment for autism that parents say can

help provide a better quality of life for their kids. desmoinesregister.com, March 15 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/JSNUHP>

73. Disability rights advocates take concerns to Missouri lawmakers. On Wednesday, hundreds of disability rights advocates will be in Jefferson City to take their concerns straight to lawmakers during the 16th annual Disability Rights Legislative Day at the state capitol. kmov.com, March 15 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/fEu3gU>

74. Developmental Services/SB40 Board Continues Transition - Split Into Two Entities Last Summer. Due to federal changes to Medicaid, the Board of Developmental Services for Franklin County (DSFC) was forced to split into two separate entities in order to supply the same services to county residents. emissourian.com, March 10 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/ccQS8P>

75. Special education struggles to find funding in the Legislature. The main state budget bill at the state Legislature passed first reading last week with some surprises, such as the restoration of \$11.5 million to higher education funding, and some expected cuts. Great Falls Tribune, March 12 (Montana) <https://is.gd/utVE3K>

76. Columnist Cate Rowen: Parents support special education plan. As former and current leaders of Northampton's special education parent advisory committee (SPEDPAC), we support the inclusion plan proposed for next year's Northampton School Department budget. gazettenet.com, March 13 (New Hampshire) <https://is.gd/3i9ipB>

77. Education Law Center argues school district violates state law. Hundreds of children in special education programs in Paterson are not getting the therapy they need, according to a complaint filed this week by the Newark-based Education Law Center. northjersey.com, March 11 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/kSMvxw>

78. Senate Sends School Restraint Bill To Governor. This afternoon, the Senate approved House Bill 75, a bill to limit the use of restraint and seclusion techniques in schools. ladailypost.com, March 13 (New Mexico) <https://is.gd/OyVcsi>

79. Experts: 'Trumpcare' places autism, disability coverage in jeopardy. Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins University say that proposed changes to the health care system under President Trump could have a profound effect on people with disabilities, according to an editorial published Wednesday in The New England Journal of Medicine. mycentraloregon.com, March 9 (New York) <https://is.gd/OU8qqD>

- 80. State Auditors Raise Red Flags Over East Quogue School's Special Education Programming.** The East Quogue School District must revamp its special education practices and programming after a newly released State Department of Education audit revealed multiple deficiencies, shortcomings that, in some instances, violate both state and federal education laws, according to the report. 27east.com, March 15 (New York) <https://is.gd/JmfzFx>
- 81. Protesters Claim House Bills Target The Blind.** More than a dozen blind Oklahomans held a protest at the steps of the state Capitol and stood against a set of bills they say unfairly target them. news9.com, March 11 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/jiQwiN>
- 82. Cleveland, Standridge to hold special education forum.** State Rep. Bobby Cleveland, R-Slaughterville, and state Sen. Rob Standridge, R-Norman, will hold forum on special education... normantranscript.com, March 12 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/wFJhFH>
- 83. Battle over control of special-needs scholarships turns ugly.** A storm is raging over control of a program that has awarded tuition grants for special needs students to attend private schools since 2014, after the program's director was fired less than a month into the job for accidentally releasing sensitive student information. Greenville Online, March 8 (South Carolina) <https://is.gd/9mSmTB>
- 84. SDDC workers vote to unionize.** Workers at the South Dakota Developmental Center in Redfield have voted to unionize. plainsman.com, March 13 (South Dakota) <https://is.gd/OvtECX>
- 85. TEA slowly working to remove special education indicator.** The Texas Education Agency has been working over the last four years to eventually eliminate the Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System's special education representation indicator that suggests school districts keep special education enrollment at or below 8.5 percent, the TEA said in a statement released in November. communityimpact.com, March 10 (Texas) <https://is.gd/NjNkBd>
- 86. How Disabled Americans Are Fighting the GOP Health-Care Bill.** Advocates warn that the American Health Care Act would "annihilate" Medicaid, spiraling millions of disabled Americans into poverty. Pacific Standard, March 10 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/LugERX>
- 87. GOP lawmakers refuse to protect LGBT students and those with disabilities in school voucher bill.** There was something buried in the news that a U.S. House committee had just advanced a bill renewing federally funded school vouchers in Washington — the only such program in the country — and it is

highly revealing about Republican priorities when it comes to protecting the civil rights of students. The Washington Post, March 12 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/0fnQ1J>

88. A Victory for Disability Rights and the Constitution. For months, we've been following the saga of a misguided agency regulation that would have deprived some of the most vulnerable Americans of their basic due process rights. *cato.org*, March 13 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/0O61xb>

89. Families with disabilities say Medicaid cuts could be 'devastating'. Disability groups in Wisconsin are meeting with lawmakers this week, including U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan, to express concerns about the American Health Care Act. *channel3000.com*, March 13 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/WQjtSt>

International Articles

90. Grampians man with disability paid \$2.52 an hour. An intellectually disabled Grampians man has been compensated by the Commonwealth after being paid as little as \$2.52 an hour in government funded workshops. *The Courier*, March 10 (Australia) <https://is.gd/2Jx628>

91. Family of boy with severe brain injury sues for \$8.5m. THE family of a boy who went into a Brisbane hospital for heart surgery but ended up with a severe brain injury is suing for \$8.5 million so he can be given lifelong care. *The Courier-Mail*, March 11 (Australia) <https://is.gd/3yIYqE>

92. Teacher accused of cutting autistic boy's hair during school. A parent told school officials she never gave the teacher permission to cut their son's hair. *nbc4i.com*, March 10 (Canada) <https://is.gd/qCbdob>

93. Girl, seven, sexually assaulted by boy, nine, at Hong Kong small group home. Victim told to remove her clothes and perform oral sex on older child. *The Street*, March 9 (China) <https://is.gd/MF1sn1>

94. German court convicts man for smuggling drugs in wheelchair. A Dutch citizen has been sentenced in Germany to 5 ½ years in prison for smuggling multiple kilograms (pounds) of cocaine inside his wheelchair from the Dutch Caribbean island of Curacao. *wboc.com*, March 15 (Germany) <https://is.gd/gRhT2F>

95. Ghanaian Special Olympics team denied visa. Ghana will miss this year's Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria after The Netherlands Embassy in

- Accra denied the team representing the country visas to enable them to travel to Austria for the competition. graphic.com.gh, March 14 (Ghana) <https://is.gd/OKsh41>
96. **HSE has several questions to answer before PAC, says whistleblower.** An intellectually disabled woman, Grace, was left in a home at the centre of abuse allegations for 13 years after other residents were removed. RTE, March 12 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/RMbl0b>
97. **Alleged Silk Road admin to be extradited to US despite Asperger's.** A man with Asperger's syndrome accused of being an administrator of a criminal dark web marketplace will face trial in America after his appeal against extradition was dismissed. scmagazineuk.com, March 9 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/HT92LZ>
98. **85% jump in number of complaints received about HSE care of vulnerable adults.** A cost-saving decision to move people with severe intellectual disabilities away from their long-term home was overturned. thejournal.ie, March 9 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/wuCQCY>
99. **Scottish campaigners to give evidence to UN on concerns over disability rights.** Scottish campaigners will meet with UN officials tomorrow to raise concerns about the treatment of disabled people by the UK Government. The Herald, March 11 (Scotland) <https://is.gd/EbanyO>
100. **Blind RAF veteran died after Boots sent him pills meant for different patient with similar name, inquest hears.** RAF veteran Douglas Lamond, 86, died after complaining of chest pain. telegraph.co.uk, March 13 (UK) <https://is.gd/3YmZee>
101. **Care home staff accused of getting partially naked and carrying out online sex chats at desk.** A care agency has launched an investigation after footage emerged seeming to show staff partially naked at their desks and engaging in online sex chats. standard.co.uk, March 11 (UK) <https://is.gd/RZJqEE>
102. **Prosecution seeks \$60,000 fine after London group home operator Keith Charles found guilty of 12 code violations.** Controversial London group home operator Keith Charles, one of whose buildings became a lightning rod for substandard housing after a deadly fire, couldn't wait to get away from the courthouse Monday. Ipress.com, March 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/sHyUvq>
103. **Hundreds of Thousands of Vulnerable People 'Detained Unlawfully'.** Hundreds of thousands of disabled and ill people in the UK are being detained unlawfully in care homes and hospitals, according to a new report by the Law Commission. rightsinfo.org, March 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/vQRoMm>

104. **Two other homes have closed in the wake of London's new licensing bylaw, brought in after a 2014 fatal fire.** London's attempt to make housing safer for vulnerable adults has led to two operators of four properties getting licences to run informal group homes. Ifpress.com, March 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/cclMaQ>
105. **Disabled people are once again confronting the spectre of social isolation.** On Monday, disabled representatives from disability organisations across England, Scotland and Wales presented reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Geneva. theguardian.com, March 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/K8zhVh>
106. **Bus drivers 'need more power' to help wheelchair users.** The mother of a wheelchair user forced off a bus has urged drivers to do more to help disabled passengers. bbc.com, March 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/ayb3Tm>
107. **Birds Eye send 2,000 old-style chicken nuggets to boy with Asperger's who stopped eating after recipe of his favourite meal changed.** Parents launched desperate Facebook appeal in search for old recipe nuggets, which William eats every day for lunch and dinner. The Sun, March 12 (UK) <https://is.gd/hp5bRS>
108. **Body of amputee found in river.** Police are asking for the public's help in identifying a man whose body was found in the River Nene in Northampton this afternoon. itv.com, March 13 (UK) <https://is.gd/ok334d>