

# FATE

FOUNDATION AIDING THE ELDERLY

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## COVID DEATHS IN NEW YORK AND CALIFORNIA UNDER SUSPICION

1/29/21...Today, more terrible news has come out about the nursing home deaths in New York and how Governor Cuomo hid the actual number of COVID deaths in NY facilities. It is still unclear how many actual deaths have occurred in the country's nursing homes and NY certainly is not the only state that should be looked into.

California appears to have many deaths as well. The question is who is determining the cause of death for all these patients? Is it really the COVID virus? Or, could it possibly be because no one was permitted into these facilities and patients were dying from other causes, such as malnutrition, bed sores, dehydration, insufficient staffing, etc.? Very possible.

Nursing home operators have avoided being held accountable for lack of staff, poor care and neglect for years due to the lack of oversight by the regulators that are empowered to bring about better care for our most vulnerable citizens. Federal and state regulations have long been established to protect our most vulnerable citizens yet during FATE's 38 years of advocacy, nursing home neglect and abuse continues in this country. The nursing home industry is very wealthy and wields a lot of power through their lobbyist who donate many millions of dollars for the operators benefit...not us consumers. And, the majority of monies going into nursing homes are our tax dollars via Medicare, Medicaid and MediCal in California.

Could this all be political? Are nursing home operators receiving more government money if they claim patients have the COVID? In deed they are.... Hopefully, something positive will come out of this horrific situation and the light will be shed on the nursing home industry and better care will be the outcome.

**Time will tell.**

Carole Herman

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