

Lawsuit: 'Predator' nurse at Sinai-Grace drugged, sexually assaulted patient

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A Detroit area nurse <u>accused of sexually assaulting several patients</u> now faces a third lawsuit, alleging he drugged and sexually assaulted a woman earlier this year.

The most recent lawsuit, filed Monday in Wayne County Circuit Court by Michigan Sexual Assault Lawyers, alleges Wilfredo Figueroa-Berrios performed an unnecessary second pap smear on 24-year-old Trejah Shines in July, then drugged her and sexually assaulted her. Shines reported the sexual assault immediately, attorney Tim Holland said during a press conference Tuesday, and had a rape kit done.

But Figueroa-Berrios continued working at Detroit Medical Center's Sinai-Grace Hospital until at least August 18, and is accused of sexually assaulting two other women at the hospital during that time. Charges have been filed against Figueroa-Berrios in two alleged August assaults and he has been fired from Sinai-Grace.

"When people seek care at a hospital, they are at their most vulnerable state," Holland said. "What they don't need is to be in fear of being attacked or assaulted. Sinai-Grace has betrayed that fundamental responsibility. In an ultimate betrayal they allowed a known predator unlimited access to its patients."

A spokesperson from DMC Sinai-Grace said the hospital on Detroit's west side prioritizes the safety of its patients.

"The hospital has rigorous processes in place to screen applicants prior to employment. There was no indication of a concern during that process. We also have processes to identify and address patient safety issues and take appropriate action," according to the statement. "Upon becoming aware of these allegations, Sinai-Grace proactively initiated contact with and notified law enforcement and suspended the employee, who has since been terminated. We do not condone any type of abuse and are cooperating fully with law enforcement. Federal privacy laws restrict us from sharing patient-specific information."

With the filing of the new lawsuit on Monday, Figueroa-Berrios is now publicly accused of sexually assaulting six women <u>between 2021</u> and his August 2025 firing from Sinai-Grace.

Charges have not been filed connected to Shines' alleged sexual assault, but Holland said he is confident Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy is doing everything she can to bring Figueroa-Berrios to justice. Assistant Prosecutor Maria Miller said she was not able to comment on the Detroit cases.

Shines, who is a nurse herself, has been devastated by the sexual assault, Holland said. She has especially struggled with wondering how the health care system could allow this to happen to her, he said.

Flood Law also sued Sinai-Grace Hospital, alleging a woman was sexually assaulted there in August. Figueroa-Berrios also faces charges connected to this alleged assault. He also allegedly sexually assaulted someone at Trinity Health in Livonia in 2021, according to a lawsuit filed by Fieger Law.

A Trinity Health spokesperson said Figueroa-Berrios previously worked at Trinity Health, but the health system has no record of him working there after 2018.

"While we cannot disclose the reason he is no longer working at Trinity Health, we can confirm it was not related to the allegations currently being reported," according to the health system.