



Detroit doctor convicted of prescribing drugs for sex faces lawsuit

By Dana Afana

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A Metro Detroit doctor is facing a lawsuit filed against him for inappropriate sexual contact with a patient.

Dr. John R. Verbovsky, 67, of Southfield, worked as an osteopathic doctor at Progressive Family Medicine in Sterling Heights and Stout Family Medicine in Detroit.

Verbovsky was charged with five felonies in February 2015, accused of prescribing narcotics to leverage sex and money from patients.

His medical license was later revoked.

Detroit Attorney Brian McKeen filed the lawsuit in Wayne County Circuit Court on behalf of a woman who suffers from rheumatoid arthritis and lupus and was prescribed narcotics from Verbovsky.

She says the doctor demanded sexual favors in exchange for her prescriptions.

"Verbovsky knowingly took advantage of a patient in desperate pain," McKeen said in a press release. "This doctor abused trust

on so many levels. He used his power to control her pain medication as a weapon to satisfy his sexual vices."

Verbovsky is serving a prison sentence for one count of running a criminal enterprise, two counts of medical fraud and two counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.