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92-year-old California man forced into conservatorship, family says

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Howard Rose, 92, is under a Ventura County-imposed conservatorship that controls nearly every aspect of his life. Now, his loved ones are fighting to bring him home. MORE: https://www.foxla.com/news/southern-c...

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Transcript

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0:00 be out of here soon.

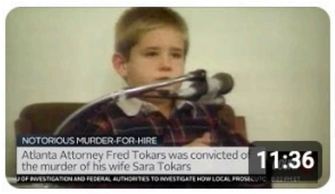
0:02 We're trying. I told you I'll keep my promise to help you. Okay. 92year-old Howard Rose has a single wish he's expressed to his family again and again.

0:12 I don't want to be confusing. I just want to go home and die if I

0:19 It's hard because he begs to come home and I'm powerless. There's nothing that I can do right now. That's because the

0:27 county of Ventura has placed a conservatorship over both Howard's

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92-year-old California man forced into conservatorship, family says

Audio Transcript

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0:00
be out of here soon.
0:02
2 seconds
We're trying. I told you I'll keep my promise to help you. Okay. 92year-old Howard Rose has a single wish he's expressed to his family again and again.
0:12
12 seconds
I don't want to be confusing. I just want to go home and die if I
0:19
19 seconds
It's hard because he begs to come home and I'm powerless. There's nothing that I can do right now. That's because the
0:27
27 seconds
county of Ventura has placed a conservatorship over both Howard's person and finances. Even though his
0:34
34 seconds
family is pleading to bring him home and care for him themselves, we had no civil rights. No, he had no due process.
0:43
43 seconds
Howard's wife Cynthia and his son Andrew alleged that Ventura County unlawfully placed 92-year-old Howard Rose under
0:51
51 seconds
conservatorship to cover up medical negligence and gain control of his finances. They say the county's actions
0:57
57 seconds
were triggered by a hospital visit after which the family was wrongly accused of abandoning him, a claim they firmly
1:05
1 minute, 5 seconds
deny. These people can just gang up on you and take your loved one, your dad, your grandma, your mom, anyone. It can happen to anyone. And usually money is
1:14
1 minute, 14 seconds

involved. That's what they look for. The Rose family alleges that Ventur County has been needlessly racking up medical
1:21
1 minute, 21 seconds
bills for unnecessary procedures and transferring Howard from one nursing facility to another. Even though they're
1:28
1 minute, 28 seconds
fully capable of caring for him at home like they've done in the past, we think that they're going to try to take this condo that we live in jointly and and
1:37
1 minute, 37 seconds
it's to pay these bills we don't even know. The county of Ventura denies the family's allegations and insists there is no cover up. A statement was issued
1:46
1 minute, 46 seconds
that says in part, "The conservatorship over Mr. Howard Rose's person and property was established by the Ventura
1:53
1 minute, 53 seconds
Superior Court after hearing testimony and reviewing other evidence about his condition and situation. His family was
2:01
2 minutes, 1 second
represented in the conservatorship by an attorney who was permitted to cross-examine witnesses and could have presented evidence to the court. Can I
2:10
2 minutes, 10 seconds
see Kevin sued?" We hope as Howard desperately wishes to return home to be with his family and his beloved dog
2:17
2 minutes, 17 seconds
Kevin, his future remains in limbo. I think the people of Ventura need to know that the role of government is
2:26
2 minutes, 26 seconds
protection and this is the furthest thing from protection. Andrew says there was never any evidence of elder abuse involving the family. Yet
2:34
2 minutes, 34 seconds
conservatorships are notoriously difficult to terminate. The process can drag on for years. I'm Gina Silva, Fox 11 News.