

Lawyer retained by Rumph Family

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The family of Danny Rumph, the college basketball player who collapsed and died after a pickup game Sunday night on a Philadelphia playground, has retained a lawyer to investigate his death.

"We intend to gather all of the facts and make a determination as to whether there were parties who must be held accountable for Danny's death," Thomas R. Kline, a prominent Center City personal-injury lawyer, said last night.

The fire department responded as quickly as it was able, according to Executive Chief Daniel Williams, the department spokesman.

Rumph, 21, collapsed after a game at the Mallery Recreation Center at Morton and Johnson Streets in Germantown, a few blocks from his home. The former Parkway High star had recently finished his junior year at Western Kentucky.

The emergency call came in to 911 at 10:38 p.m., and first responders from Engine 9 at Germantown Avenue and Carpenter Lane arrived at the rec center four minutes later, Williams said.

Medic 14, based at 20th and Federal Streets in South Philadelphia, also was dispatched and arrived in 30 minutes, according to Williams.

Because of the volume of emergency activity throughout the city at that time, Medic 14 was the nearest available medical unit, Williams said.

First responders, such as those assigned to Engine 9, are emergency medical technicians licensed by the state, according to Williams. They are equipped with defibrillators and oxygen and can initiate CPR, he said.

The Medic 14 personnel began advance life support and transported Rumph to Albert Einstein Medical Center, Williams said.

Rumph was pronounced dead at the hospital at 11:45 Sunday night.