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## EXCLUSIVE

By LORENA MONGELLI  
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The first time he ever saw his daughter, she was laid out in a coffin.

But now, the biological father of Nixzmary Brown wants control of her estate — which could reap millions from lawsuits against the city.

And relatives of the 7-year-old girl, whose stepdad allegedly beat her to death while her mom looked the other way, are outraged.

"I tried to see her. I swear to God I did, but I didn't know where she was. Nobody knew where she was," said Abdurrahman Mian, 36, who lost touch with the girl's mother around the time of Nixzmary's birth.

Mian, 36, plans to file pa-

pers in Brooklyn Surrogate's Court within the next two months to be named administrator of her estate, his lawyer, Daniel Flanzig, said yesterday.

Stepfather Cesar Rodriguez and mom Nixzaliz Santiago are facing second-degree murder charges in the Jan. 11 beating death of Nixzmary, who was emaciated and had been tortured.

The girl, often bound to a wooden school chair and forced to use a cat-litter box as a toilet, became the latest poster child for mismanagement and bungling in the city's child-welfare system. Her case sparked national headlines and led the mayor to shake up the Administration for Children's Services.

"If I had the chance, I would have taken her, but now she's dead," said Mian, a Brooklyn cabby. "I lost my daughter and all I feel is pain."



**CESAR RODRIGUEZ**  
Allegedly tortured girl.

But Nixzmary's grandmother, Maria Gonzalez, is having none of it.

"I'm upset. He was never there for his child," she said. "He never tried to reach out to her, and now he's suing so he can have all the money to himself."

This week, Gonzalez signed a petition seeking to be named estate administrator herself, said family

spokeswoman Awilda Cordero. She is also seeking custody of Nixzmary's five siblings.

The grandma, who lives in Puerto Rico, said she would use money from any potential lawsuit to "secure the kids' future. It's for their education. My main concern is the children."

She accused Mian of trying to cash in on her granddaughter's tragic life and death.

"He's just doing this for selfish reasons," she said.

Not true, Mian insisted.

"Everyone thinks I'm doing this for the money, but I'm doing it to prevent this from happening to other children," he said. "I feel shame because I wasn't there for her."

You have to be administrator of an estate to file a suit on behalf of a dead minor, and Flanzig said he didn't know if Mian plans to sue the city, ACS or any-

one else.

"He wants to find out what happened," Flanzig said. "He wants to find out why ACS never took more action."

Cordero said Nixzaliz Santiago told her that Mian "wanted me to get an abortion and [that] he said he would leave me if I kept the baby."

Flanzig replied that before Nixzmary's birth, Mian had to return to his native Pakistan and that when he got back to the States, he found that Santiago had met someone else.

Over the years, Mian made intermittent attempts to get in contact with her, but she was always moving around, the lawyer said.

In January, Mian went to his daughter's wake, weeping and telling mourners, "I'm her father."

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