



CONFLICT COUNSEL  
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April 13, 2022

Humboldt Behavioral Health Board  
720 Wood Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of [REDACTED], as an advocate for him and with years of experience dealing with people suffering from untreated and ongoing mental health issues as well as those striving for substance abuse recovery. ON April 13, 2022, I transported [REDACTED] to Department of Mental Health for his appointment with Dr. Griffin. Dr. Griffin is a new provider that was assigned to work with [REDACTED] in place of Dr. Auwalyes. When we arrived this morning for his appointment at 10 a.m. they brought [REDACTED] upstairs without his social worker (myself) and then informed him that they would not be seeing him, that instead he would have to see Dr. Auwalyes because he was not a client of Dr. Griffin. However, we were informed today that he was discontinued as a client of Dr. Auwalyes, who discharged him as a client on March 23, 2022, because he was referred to Dr. Griffin. In addition, [REDACTED] was informed that the nurse who delivers his medications would no longer be able to bring medications to him because he brought her a flower and she felt uncomfortable continuing to provide those services to him. [REDACTED] is developmentally delayed and Italian, he did not intentionally do anything to make the nurse uncomfortable or to be disrespectful or inappropriate. [REDACTED] was recently discharged from St. Joseph's

Hospital and Semper Virens without medication because the hospital informed him that he needed to have his medication order and delivered by County Mental Health. This discharged was on April 11, 2022. Please see the information below regarding [REDACTED] [REDACTED] mental health crisis over the last four weeks and the struggle he has been facing to get consistent and appropriate care for his mental health needs. This information was provided on April 7, 2022, to [REDACTED] board and care facility who was threatening to evict [REDACTED] because of his mental health destabilization.

Through no fault of his own, [REDACTED] has been suffering from a mental health crisis for several weeks now leading to his hospitalization and mental health hold on April 7, 2022. [REDACTED] and I have been diligent about seeking help from medical professionals regarding [REDACTED] medication issues, his decompensation, and ongoing delusions because of the lack of stabilization of medication(s) and provider intervention available to him. I understand that his housing situation is at risk, and I am incredibly concerned that [REDACTED] is being unfairly punished for events which were outside of his control. Therefore, I am strongly requesting everyone consider the following information before making an active choice to evict [REDACTED] from the only available housing he has. If [REDACTED] is evicted from board and care and forced back into homelessness, the ability for him to maintain sobriety and achieve regularly, monitored mental health treatment will be impossible. If homeless, [REDACTED] will continue to destabilize leading to more frequent visits to the hospital, mental health holds and placements in inpatient psychiatric facilities, increased interactions with law enforcement and further jail time. Once again, I strongly urge you to consider the following information before taking away [REDACTED] only available housing. Yesterday, I sent the following email to Mental Health regarding [REDACTED] ongoing struggle.

To whom it may concern: I have increased concerns regarding [REDACTED] current mental health status. On March 24, 2022, [REDACTED] was in crisis and had an



appointment with Dr. Aulwes who increased his medications. On Friday, March 25, 2022, I contacted the pharmacy and Mental Health regarding [REDACTED] medication and his immediate need for them going into the weekend to stabilize his psychotic behavior and was unable to get the medication until the following Tuesday. Over that weekend, he had decompensated and was taken by me to St. Joseph's emergency room whose security team attempted to ban him from the Hospital Premises prior to him being seen by a doctor regarding his mental health status. We spent, eight hours in the hospital before he was finally seen by the ER doctor who prescribed him Zyprexa for seven days, this was on March 26, 2022. That medication could not be filled by the pharmacy until the following day, March 27, 2022, and took that until April 3, 2022. On Monday, March 28, 2022, Tom Nash, the supervisor for Behavioral Health at Semper Virens came to the board and care where [REDACTED] is currently residing to attempt to calm [REDACTED] down because he was still in mental health crisis, having active delusions and threatening to kill people. By, Tuesday, March 29, 2022, the Zyprexa finally started to stabilize his delusions and I monitored that he was taking it, as prescribed. I also located a prescription bottle with medications that had been delivered by Mental Health in a five-day pill box that [REDACTED] was supposed to have been taking with monitoring from a medication nurse from Mental Health that he had not been taking; pictures of that medication are attached to this email. I have attempted to reach out to Mental Health, the crisis line, I've asked for a supervisor, I've requested to speak to the nurse who delivers the medications, and nobody has contacted me back regarding this matter. [REDACTED] is having and ongoing mental health crisis, he cussed out his probation officer today, he's at risk for losing his housing because of the instability of his medication regimen, access and monitoring of said medication by a mental health professional.

I am urgently asking that someone get back to me regarding these ongoing issues with [REDACTED] so that we can all work together to help him maintain his housing and some

level of independent living or quality of life and hopefully to prevent him from needing hospitalization or ending up back in custody for his medication decompensation.

After mental health had received my email yesterday, they finally contacted me back regarding [REDACTED] and were miraculously able to get him in for a 3:30 p.m.

appointment to review his medications. By the time we made it to the Mental Health Appointment, he was immediately transported to St. Joseph's Hospital for a 51-50 hold, because of the state of his psychosis and Mental Health's inability to properly provide and regulate his necessary medications. Again, through no fault of his own has [REDACTED] done anything to deliberately end up in crisis. It is Mental Health who should have been advocating, regulating, and providing [REDACTED] with his necessary medication and ensuring that he was taking them as prescribed, that they were in fact prescribed and available to him over the last several weeks. [REDACTED] is currently still in St. Joseph's Hospital waiting admission to psychiatric care for his stabilization.

As you can see from the information provided, [REDACTED] has desperately been seeking appropriate care and medication for his mental health diagnosis and has been unable to successfully get and maintain treatment despite his continued efforts. As it stands now, [REDACTED] was unable to be seen by Mental Health today, he doesn't have a scheduled appointment with a provider because Mental Health cannot seem to determine who his psychiatrist is, he left today without medication which means he's been without medication changes so the only medication available to him are the previously prescribed medication that has not been working to treat his symptoms and which have assisted in his recent hospitalizations. What can we do to provide [REDACTED] with the appropriate care that he needs to manage his current conditions and prevent him from being hospitalized again for decompensation? I would appreciate your urgent response to this letter.

You can reach me by phone at 707-445-7475 or by email at

[dkellerman2@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:dkellerman2@co.humboldt.ca.us)

Regards,

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Danette Kellerman  
Social Worker III