

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
CENTRAL OFFICE

November 8, 2002

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Jim Gottstein
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Déar Jim:

I am writing in response to your letter dated October 7, in which you refute certain aspects of our division's September 12, 2002 investigation report concerning the Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web, and request that the report be withdrawn or rescinded. As I indicated in a recent email to you, I will not be able to accommodate your request and the investigation report will stand as written. While there was not any information in your letter that would lead us to change our division's position or report on the Web investigation, I appreciate that your perspective on some of the issues is different from ours. I am therefore officially and for the record appending your letter to the investigation report.

I need to point out what I believe is a misconception on your part regarding the purpose of the Web investigation. As indicated in the written report, the purpose of the investigation was to follow up on a series of complaints that we received regarding particular Board members' actions and behaviors in relation to decision-making and the day-to-day operations of the Web. I understand that you believed the purpose of the investigation was to review the planned termination of the Executive Director. In the context of your interview during the investigation, you presented information regarding alleged wrongdoing on the part of the Executive Director. While this was not the subject or purpose of our review, the investigation team explored the allegations and did not find any indication of wrongdoing. Any further review of these alleged actions should be taken up with the Web's Board of Directors, which has the sole authority regarding personnel matters involving the Executive Director.

You and I have enjoyed a very positive working relationship over the last several years. I admire the advocacy work that you have done of mental health consumers in the state. I am sorry that we have very different views concerning the Web investigation and hope that our positive working relationship can continue, despite these differences.

Sincerely,



Walter Majoros
Director

CC: Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web