

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

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December 21, 2007

Faith Meyers & Dorrance Collins
3240 Penland Pkwy, Sp. 35
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Ms. Myers and Mr. Collins:

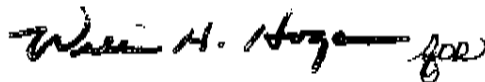
Thank you for your November 21, 2007 correspondence inquiring if the Providence Single Point of Entry (SPE) is required to abide by and comply with AS 47.30.847; as well as follow Behavioral Health's grantee requirements for grievance procedures.

It is our understanding that AS 47.30.847 applies to the Providence Hospital Single Point of Entry. Furthermore, it is our understanding that Providence Hospital does indeed have policies & procedures consistent with the aforementioned statutory requirement. Please find enclosed copies of the Providence Health System – Alaska Region, Rights & Responsibilities of Patients, as well as Patient Complaint Management Policy & Procedure. These were sent to you in the last correspondence, but included again for your convenience.

However, it is important to note that the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS) agreement with Providence Hospital for the SPE is not a grant. Therefore, Providence Hospital is technically not bound to Behavioral Health's grantee requirements for grievance procedures. Therefore, please address your concerns regarding the Providence Single Point of Entry directly to Providence Hospital.

Thank you for your continued advocacy for the rights for psychiatric patients in our state.

Sincerely,



Karleen K. Jackson, Ph.D.
Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Bill Hogan, Deputy Commissioner
Bill Streur, Deputy Commissioner
Melissa Stone, Director, Division of Behavioral Health