



NH-PA-004-005

T. 7/28/95

DLP:LK:AEP:RF:RJF:cmw  
DJ 168-62-33*Mailed  
8-17-95*

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell  
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Mayor  
215 City Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Investigation of the Philadelphia Nursing Home

Dear Mayor Rendell:

I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Philadelphia Nursing Home ("PNH"). This investigation will be conducted pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997.

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether conditions at PNH violate the residents' constitutional and statutory rights. We will be looking at, among other things, resident safety, the adequacy of medical, nursing and basic care, training, staffing, the use of psychotropic medication, and issues involving community placement. The initiation of this investigation does not indicate a prejudgment on our part that federal rights have been violated. If any violations are found, we intend to confer with you and your staff concerning any appropriate corrective action.

We would like to initiate this investigation as soon as possible. In that regard, an attorney from my office will contact your staff within the next week to arrange a tour of PNH by our consultants and Civil Rights Division personnel. The attorney responsible for this matter is Richard Farano ((202) 307-3116).

cc: Records Chrono Peabody Frohboese Farano Hold

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Loretta King  
Acting Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

cc: Joseph A. Dworetzky, Esq.  
City Solicitor  
City of Philadelphia  
Law Department

Ms. Estelle B. Richman  
Commissioner  
City of Philadelphia  
Health Department

Ms. Mollie Hess  
Executive Director  
Philadelphia Nursing Home

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Eastern District of Pennsylvania