

U.S. Department o. Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

JAN 21 50

Honorable Garrey Carruthers Governor State Capitol Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Re: Investigation of Los Lunas Hospital and Training School, Los Lunas, New Mexico

Dear Governor Carruthers:

I am writing to let you know of our intention to investigate conditions within the Los Lunas Hospital and Training School, Los Lunas, New Mexico. This investigation is pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1997-1997j.

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether there exists any violations of the statutory and federal constitutional rights of patients residing at the facility. The investigation will focus on allegations related to the abuse of residents; staffing; use of medication; medical care; environmental conditions; use of physical restraints and the provision of minimally adequate training. The initiation of this investigation in no way evidences any prejudgment on our part that patient federal rights have been violated. If any violations are found, we look forward to conferring with you and your staff concerning corrective actions that might be appropriate.

As a means of commencing this investigation, I wish to propose an initial meeting in the near future between our attorneys and representatives of your office. It has been our experience that such a preliminary conference can substantially expedite the investigation process. We also wish to arrange for our attorneys, consultants, and perhaps agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to visit Los Lunas. We shall be in touch with your staff to work out specifics of our meeting and later visits.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Wm. Bradford Reynolds
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Hal Stratton, Esq. Attorney General

> Larry Gordon Secretary Health and Environment Department

Mark Delgado
Superintendent
Los Lunas Hospital and
Training School

William L. Lutz, Esq. United States Attorney