

HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
CHICAGO REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 3, 2024
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Madden MHC, Room 1088: 1200 S. First Ave., Hines, Illinois

PRESENT: Gary Doherty, and Nicole Erickson.

ABSENT: Judi Bradley, Linda Cervenka, Tiffany Johnson, Marie Marasovich,
and Michael Romain.

STAFF: Jeremy Polk (Disability Rights Manager - DRM), and Alejandra Meza (DRM).

GUEST: One Concerned Citizen

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Chicago Region was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by the Chicago Region Member Gary Doherty.

It was determined that a quorum was not present. The confidentiality statement was read by Jeremy Polk.

Minutes: There were no minutes presented for approval.

Communications:

NEW BUSINESS

New Cases:

24-030-9042 – New Case – A complaint stated that a group home’s staff are not allowing the resident to attend her adult transitional classes at Thornton Township High School. The complaint stated that the group home staff are cashing the resident's SSI checks and she is not allowed accessed to her money. Case was tabled a second time due to not having all information and a release. Motion to table entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9003 – New Case – A Spanish-speaking patient reports she went into an ER for a headache and stomachache. During the visit five security guards came in to restrain her and she was injected with a medication. She was then transferred to the behavioral health unit. Was not given any paperwork until her 3rd day on the unit. Her husband was not notified of where she was. Her rights were not explained to her, and she often was interacting with nurses with no translator. The

involuntary process and discharge were not explained to her. Medications were not explained to her, and she was told she would not be discharged unless she took her medication. She was kept for 5 days and was discharged after DRM went to the unit to meet with the patient. Motion to accept entered by Nicole. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9004 – IL Masonic – A patient called reporting he was transferred to a hospital psychiatric unit after voluntarily going to an emergency to get checked out per police suggestion. He does not know why he was transferred to this hospital, which was very far from the original hospital. He did not know if he was voluntary or not and did not know about the discharge process. DRM explained his rights. DRM reached out to hospital social worker who indicated that the patient is involuntary as he has not wanted to sign in as voluntary. The social worker also indicated that the patient would be discharged later that evening. The HRA motioned to open and close this case as handled informally. Motion to open and close entered by Nicole. The motion was seconded by Gary. The will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9005 – New Case – A family member a recipient called about a guardianship issue. DRM explained the process of securing legal guardianship. DRM explained this process previously in July. DRM then visited the recipient on 8/15/2024 and the recipient did not want to talk to the DRM. DRM then spoke to the SW for the recipient, and she indicated that the recipient will be petitioned for involuntary treatment. DRM then spoke with the recipient's mother for about 2 hours. The mother understands but is unsatisfied with the process of the mental health treatment. The recipient has no current complaints, and the recipient is an adult. There is potentially a treatment petition and an emergency guardianship petition. As there is no temporary order for guardianship the facility is not involving the family. This is the major issue. The facility has solicited information from the family but does not include the family in treatment planning. As of 8/21/2024 Family member is now temporary guardian. The HRA motion to open this case for informal monitoring. Motion to open was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9006 – Hartgrove – The DRM secured a CCP-0211 for this family. The mother of this patient had a guardianship issue. The facility was reluctant to aid in securing the necessary forms for securing guardianship of the patient. DRM spoke with the risk manager and all issues were settled... Case handled informally. Motion to open and close at handled informally entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The HRA did not move into closed session pursuant to the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955/21) and the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2).

Case Assignments:

N/A

Draft reports for acceptance:

23-030-9032 – CAU – This case was tabled as there was not a quorum to discuss the report. The motion was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole.

23-030-9038 – Riveredge – This case was tabled as there was not a quorum to discuss the report. The motion was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole.

Accept responses, close, and publish:

23-030-9042 – Ascension St. Mary's – This case was tabled as there was no quorum to discuss the providers response. The motion was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole.

24-030-9012 – Loretto – This case was tabled as there was no quorum. The motion was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole.

Other unfinished business, announcements, and comments:

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Nicole and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Cervenka – Secretary