

HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
CHICAGO REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 24, 2025
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Madden MHC, Room 1088: 1200 S. First Ave., Hines, Illinois

PRESENT: Gary Doherty and Linda Cervenka.

ABSENT: Judi Bradley, Kamil Brady, Nicole Erickson, Joe Lupa, Tiffany Johnson and Michael Romain.

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

GUEST:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Chicago Region was called to order at 5:46 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: Meeting minutes were not approved for the Chicago HRA's May 13, 2025 meeting.

Communications: N/A

NEW BUSINESS

New Cases:

25-030-9040 – New Case – A complainant reports that she signed a 5-day but was not discharged timely. The case was previously tabled due to not having a release. At this meeting the case was not accepted due to not having a release. The motion was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9042 – New Case – A complainant states that she has been given multiple forced medications without cause. She states that she is allergic to Haldol and the facility keeps giving this as a PRN. Complainant also states that she has not been discharged and been subject to restraints. The case was previously tabled due to not having a release. Motion to not accept due to not having a release entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9043 – New Case – A recipient reported that she received multiple issuances of forced medications without cause. This case was motioned to be opened by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9044 – New Case – This recipient reported that she was placed in restraints for two days and given forced medications. The recipient further reported that while in restraints she was given PRN injections. The motion to open this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9045 – New Case – A recipient reports that they were given medications without a restriction notice for reading bible verses. The recipient also mentioned that the facility did not take complaints from them while on the unit. The motion to open this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9046 – New Case – A recipient indicated that she would like to be discharged. The recipient also informed the DRM that they received forced medications without cause. The motion to open this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9047 – New Case – A family member reports that a recipient was in a facility past necessity. There is no release, so the case was tabled at this meeting. The motion to table was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9048 – New Case – A CILA resident reported that a staff member has created an unsafe environment in a CILA home. The resident reports that a staff frequently smells of marijuana and the facility has not taken steps to rectify this issue. There is no release for this case and DHS has been contacted. Motion to address this case informally entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9049 – New Case – A recipient reported that a facility did not return all personal items upon release. The motion to open this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9050 – New Case – A recipient states that they are involuntary and would like to speak with an attorney. DRM forwarded information to LAS. The recipient reported issues with care, but DRM is awaiting a release and return call. The motion to table this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9051 – New Case – A recipient informed the DRM that he was given forced medications without cause. The motion to open this case was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9052 – Madden – The DRM met with this recipient on the unit. The recipient is subject to an involuntary petition. DRM contacted LAS on recipient's behalf. Case referred to LAS and handled informally. Motion to open and close as informally handled entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

25-030-9053 – Madden – The DRM spoke with this recipient's social worker due to her request. Recipient is requesting discharge. DRM spoke with the social worker at length and it was notated that recipient is being discharge in a few days. The recipient has a private guardian from the state of Kentucky and is being discharge to them. Motion to open and close as informally handled entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

25-030-9054 – New Case – DRM received an email from LAS about a recipient with complete ROI. Per email recipient was provided forced medication without received a notice on restriction of rights. DRM has not spoken with recipient and will reach out. Case tabled at this meeting. Motion to table entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9055 – Riveredge – Case was closed this date as not accepted. Recipient has complaints of physical abuse and case was referred to IDPH. Motion to not accept entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9056 – New Case – A recipient is requesting to contest information in her records. DRM submitted an informal letter for records to be sent to the recipient. DRM handling case informally. Case motioned to be open informally entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no motion to enter executive session as there was no quorum.

Case Assignments:

N/A

Draft reports for acceptance:

23-030-9039 – Hartgrove – The report for this case was accepted without issue. The HRA agreed with the recommendations in the report. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9008 – UChicago – There were no violations present in this case and it was approved without issue. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

Accept responses, close, and publish:

24-030-9029 – South Shore Hospital – This case was table as the facility did not respond to the draft report. Motion to table entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

25-030-9005 – Riveredge – This case was handled informally and was closed this date. Motion to close entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9018 – Vital Statistics – This case was also handled informally. The recipient received the requested information from the Department of Vital Statistics. Motion to close entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

Other unfinished business, announcements, and comments:

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Lupa for Linda Cervenka – Secretary