



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker
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Tracey B. Fleming
Director

Human Rights Authority
Legal Advocacy Service
Office of State Guardian

HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY NORTHWEST REGION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
4302 N. Main St., Conference Room
Rockford, IL 61103

PRESENT: Colleen Magee and Colleen Parks (Co-Chair) and Zoe Wedel
ABSENT: Sang Capone, Dr. Erin Wade (Chair)
STAFF: Nicole S. Weathersby (DRM)
GUESTS: N/A

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Northwest (NW) Region was called to order at 4:09pm by HRA Co-Chairperson Colleen Parks, who read the confidentiality statement. Introductions and greetings were completed by members and staff. It was determined that a quorum was present, of NW HRA members and appropriate business could be finalized.

Minutes

Executive and regular meeting minutes from November 19, 2024, January 7, 2025, March 25, 2025, April 15, 2025, June 10, 2025, September 23, 2025, and November 4, 2025, were accepted as presented via a motion by Member Wedel and seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

New Business

Ratifications

The following cases/complaints were addressed and ratified via a motion to accept as presented/written (numerous actions on various cases) as listed below and on the meeting ratification sheet in the meeting packet by Member Magee and seconded by Member Wedel and the motion carried.

Complaint Acceptance or Tabling

All the following case actions listed below were ratified at this meeting:

#25-0meeting, Accept & Open complaint, #25-meeting, Accept & Open complaint, #25-080-9014 = Accept & Open complaint, #25-080-9017= Accept & Open complaint, #25-080-9025 = Accept & Open complaint(emergency opening), #25-080-9026 = Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9002= Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9003 = Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9004 = Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9006= Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9009 = Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9012 =Accept & Open complaint, #26-080-9013= Accept & Open complaint(pending receipt of consent), #26-080-9014 = Accept & Open complaint(pending receipt of consent).#25-080-9013 = Table & Send 3rd certified mailing, #245-080-9018 = Table & Send certified mailing, #25-080-9019 = Table acceptance pending signed consent, #25-080-9025= Table complaint action until the next meeting, #25-080-9027= Table complaint action until the next meeting, #26-080-9001= Table complaint action until the next meeting, #26-080-9002= Table complaint action until the



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next meeting, #26-080-9005= Table complaint action until the next meeting, #26-080-9007= Table complaint action until the next meeting,

Complaint Closures & Denial

All the following case actions listed below were ratified at this meeting:

#25-080-9006= Deny & Close complaint , 25-080-9008= Deny & Close complaint, due to facility not having requested records, #25-080-9009= Deny & Close complaint, #25-080-9011= Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent, #25-080-9013=Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent, #25-080-9015 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent , #25-080-9016 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent , #25-080-9020 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up, #25-080-9021 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up , #25-080-9018= Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up , #25-080-9022 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up , #25-080-9023 = Deny, not accept & close complaint, due to not being HRA compliant and refer to appropriate agency, #25-080-9024 = Deny, not accept complaint due to time frame of incidents presented and issues not germane to the HRA, #25-080-9027= Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up #26-080-9007 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up , #26-080-9008 = Deny, not accept & close complaint, due to issues already being addressed , 26-080-9010 = Deny, not accept & close complaint, due to issues already being addressed , #26-080-9011 = Deny, not accept & close complaint, due to complainant refusing to sign consent #26-080-9013 = Deny & Close complaint, due to not receiving signed consent or follow-up

Draft Report Acceptance

All the following case actions listed below were ratified at this meeting: #24-080-9019= *Accept* unsubstantiated report w/suggestion to be sent to facility for response, #24-080-9020= *Accept* substantiated report w/recommendations and suggestion be sent to facility for response, #24-080-9021= *Accept* substantiated report w/recommendations and suggestion be sent to facility for response, #24-080-9004=: *Accept* substantiated report w/necessary corrections and send to facility for response, #24-080-9013= *Accept* unsubstantiated report w/ necessary corrections and send to facility for response, #25-080-9003= *Accept* unsubstantiated report w/suggestion to be sent to facility for response.

Report Response Acceptance

All the following case actions listed below were ratified at this meeting: #24-080-9006 -Table pending receipt and acceptance of response & needing agency clarification consent, #24-080-9006= *Accept* sending back to facility for an updated response (giving patient consent), #24-080-9019= *Accept* non-response from provider, post report & close case, #24-080-9006= *Accept* updated response from provider, post report & close case, #24-080-9020= *Accept* updated report with facility corrections and response from provider, post report & close case, #24-080-9004=Table pending receipt and acceptance of response & needing agency clarification, #24-080-9013= Table pending receipt and acceptance of response, #24-080-9021= Table pending receipt and acceptance of response.



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Agenda Updates/Changes:

DRM stated there are no changes or updates.

New Complaint:

#26-080-9015 -Complainant stated that in the hospital's Emergency Department (ED), was forcibly given the wrong medication on three separate occasions form April 2024 – June 2024 and falsified their medical records. Complainant was provided with consent to sign and return with a self-addressed envelope. **Potential Rights Violations:** Right to receive adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, right to refuse medication and services, Unwarranted use of force/restraints. Member Wedel moved to deny and close, due to no signed consent. Seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

#26-080-9016 - Complainant stated that the facility is currently restricting patient communication and visitors, via the guardian's directives, which might be violating his rights, and whether the patient's stated wishes are being ignored. **Potential Rights Violations:** Right to receive adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, right to have unimpeded, private and uncensored communication with people of her/his choice. Member Wedel moved to deny and close, due to complainant not moving forward. Seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

#26-080-9017- Complainant stated that while on the behavioral health unit, the hospital won't let her leave. The complainant was on the unit voluntarily, DRM provided process/instruct to submit a 5-day discharge and referred to LAS for additional assistance. The complainant was provided with HRA contact information, to reach out if they want to pursue complaint. **Potential Rights Violations:** Right to receive adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment. Member Magee moved to deny and close, due to complainant not moving forward. Seconded by Member Wedel and the motion carried

#26-080-9018- Complainant stated that while in the ED for medical care, she was left in room with no direction, her blood was drawn (stated possible drug use). Complainant asked if she could leave and if being held against will and she stated the staff replied with an answer of no. Complainant attempted to leave, staff grabbed her arms and positioned themselves to prevent her from leaving. Complainant left and filed a police report and claimed the police stated she was on a psychiatric hold. Complainant was provided with consent to sign and return with a self-addressed envelope. **Potential Rights Violations:** Right to receive adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment and unwarranted restraints. Member Wedel moved to deny and close, due to no signed consent. Seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

Comments from the Public:

N/A



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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Closed Session

Pursuant to the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955/21) and the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2), Member Parks motioned to enter into close session at 4:23pm and seconded by Member Wedel and the motion carried. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss any case assignments, case progress, report responses and case closures on the following cases: (#24-080-9004, #24-080-9013, #24-080-9021, #25-080-9003, #25-080-9012, #25-080-9019, #26-080-9015, #26-080-9016, #26-080-9017, #26-080-9018). The HRA returned to open session at 5:18pm, via motion by Member Wedel and seconded by Member Magee and motion carried.

Case Progress

#25-080-9019- Site visit recap from 12/19/2025 with the HRA member who attended.

#26-080-9005 – Member Magee moved to open case and complete a blind review on the agency’s polies and procedures and how appeals are handled that covers a specific time frame. Seconded by Member Wedel and motion carried.

#26-080-9012 - Member Magee moved to deny and close the pursuit of the complainant due to complainant’s desire not to pursue. Seconded by Member Wedel and the motion carried.

Draft Reports for Acceptance:

There were no draft reports to discuss in this meeting.

Accept Responses, Close and Publish Report:

#24-080-9004 - Member Wedel moved to not accept non-public response, close the case with the policy correction is listed in the appropriate place and post on report IGAC website. Seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

#24-080-9013 – Member Wedel moved to not accept non-facility response on a non-substantiated report. Close and publish report to the IAC website, seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried.

#24-080-9021 – Member Magee moved to not accept response due to not adequately addressing the recommendation and needing to provide clarification to additional HRA recommendations. Seconded by Wedel and the motion carried.

#25-080-9003 - Member Wedel moved to not accept non-facility response on a non-substantiated report. Close and publish report to the IAC website, seconded by Member Magee and the motion carried



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Other Unfinished Business, Announcements and Comments

DRM provided updated to HRA rules and statutory changes.

DRM contacted two former members, and one will return to next month's meeting.

The committee welcomed Member Parks back and offered continued condolences.

The committee celebrated Member Wedel and her educational achievements.

DRM restated the need for recruitment of community members (still need 2).

Due to the fact that a member's schedule of availability , DRM will review the possibility of changing the February 2026 meeting to a week earlier and will confirm with all HRA members by week's end.

Adjournment

Member Parks moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:49pm, seconded by Member Wedel and the motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole S. Weathersby

Nicole S. Weathersby
NW Disability Rights Manager

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at the Office of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, 4302 N. Main Street, Conference Room - Rockford, IL at 4:00pm.