



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

FAX Transmittal Sheet

U.S. v. Virginia



MR-VA-002-001

Special Litigation Section  
P.O. Box 37076  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7076

Date 5/4/90

To: Name Paula Newett

Organization Civil Division

FAX Phone No. 557-2913

Office Phone No. 557-9100

From: Name Mellie H. Nelson

FAX Phone No. 202/272-6078

Office Phone No. 272-6018

Subject: Notice ltr. to Governor Wilder per our conversation  
of today.

Number of pages transmitted (including this sheet) 3  
(max. trans. 30 sheets)

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

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Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAY 4 1990

REGISTERED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Honorable L. Douglas Wilder  
Governor of Virginia  
State Capitol Building  
Ninth and Grace Streets  
Richmond, Virginia 23212

Re: Investigation of Northern Virginia Training Center  
Fairfax, Virginia

Dear Governor Wilder:

I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Northern Virginia Training Center, Fairfax, Virginia. This investigation is pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. 1997 et seq.

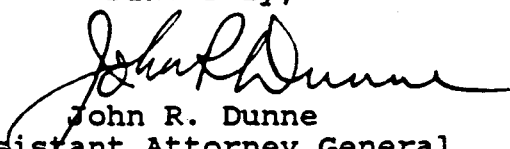
The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether there exist any violations of statutory and federal constitutional rights of clients residing at the facility. The investigation will focus on allegations related to insufficient numbers of direct care and professional staff, inadequate medical care, improper use of medications, improper use of restraints, physical abuse and harm, and the denial of training required by Youngberg v. Romeo, 457 U.S. 307 (1982), i.e., sufficient training to protect residents from unreasonable risks to their health and safety. The initiation of this investigation in no way evidences any prejudice on our part that residents' 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 process. We also wish to arrange for our attorneys, consultants, and perhaps agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to visit the Northern Virginia Training Center. We shall be in touch with your staff to work out the specifics

of our meeting and later visits. The attorney assigned to this matter is Laurie Weinstein, she can be reached at (202) 272-6453.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
John R. Dunne  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

cc: Honorable Mary Sue Terry  
Attorney General  
State of Virginia

Mr. King E. Davis  
Commissioner  
Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation  
and Substance Abuse

David H. Lawson, Ph.D.  
Director  
Northern Virginia Training Center

Henry E. Hudson, Esq.  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Virginia