



NH-PA-004-005

T. 7/28/95

DLP:LK:AEP:RF:RJF:cmw
DJ 168-62-33

*Mailed
8-17-95*

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Mayor
215 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Investigation of the Philadelphia Nursing Home

Dear Mayor Rendell:

I am writing to inform you of our intention to investigate conditions at the Philadelphia Nursing Home ("PNH"). This investigation will be conducted pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997.

The purpose of the investigation will be to determine whether conditions at PNH violate the residents' constitutional and statutory rights. We will be looking at, among other things, resident safety, the adequacy of medical, nursing and basic care, training, staffing, the use of psychotropic medication, and issues involving community placement. The initiation of this investigation does not indicate a prejudgment on our part that federal rights have been violated. If any violations are found, we intend to confer with you and your staff concerning any appropriate corrective action.

We would like to initiate this investigation as soon as possible. In that regard, an attorney from my office will contact your staff within the next week to arrange a tour of PNH by our consultants and Civil Rights Division personnel. The attorney responsible for this matter is Richard Farano ((202) 307-3116).

cc: Records Chrono Peabody Frohboese Farano Hold

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Loretta King
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Joseph A. Dworetzky, Esq.
City Solicitor
City of Philadelphia
Law Department

Ms. Estelle B. Richman
Commissioner
City of Philadelphia
Health Department

Ms. Mollie Hess
Executive Director
Philadelphia Nursing Home

Michael R. Stiles, Esq.
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Eastern District of Pennsylvania