



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
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CIRCULAR LETTER: DHCQ 4-00-400

TO: Administrators/Long Term Care Facilities
Directors/ Massachusetts Ambulance Companies

FROM: Paul I. Dreyer, Director
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Division of Health Care Quality

Louise Goyette, Director
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Michael Weeks, Director of Licensing
Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
Clinical and Professional Services

DATE: April 4, 2000

SUBJECT: Unauthorized use of DMH form AA-1, "Application for and Authorization of Temporary Involuntary Hospitalization," pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 123, s. 12.

It has come to the attention of the Departments of Mental Health and Public Health, that some patients are being transported, by ambulance, to Long Term Care Facilities through the mechanism of a signed of DMH form AA-1, "Application for and Authorization of Temporary Involuntary Hospitalization," commonly referred to as a "Section 12" form or "pink paper".

This letter is to advise LTCFs and ambulance companies that use of this form for the purpose of transporting individuals to LTCFs is not permitted. Ambulance services should consult with their region for guidance on point of entry, should they be confronted with this situation.

If you have any questions on this matter, please call:

For DHCQ: Kathleen Coyle, Assistant Director, at (617)753-8106.

For OEMS: Abdullah Rehayem, Supervisor/Ambulance Licensing Program at (617) 284-8300.

For DMH: Michael Weeks, Director/Licensing Division, Clinical and Professional Services at (617) 626-8120.