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Gale Lyons

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URGENT

FAX TRANSMISSION

To: Governor Nikki Haley
Phone: 803.734.2100
Fax: 803.734.5167

From: Gale Lyons
Phone: 803-565-9158

Re: Patient-Ezekiel Burns
DOB: 04/04/19470

Pages including the cover: 14

Comment: Please see attached complaint letter sent to G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, Santee-Wateree Mental Health, and DHEC regarding my uncle Ezekiel Burns.

Gale Lyons
PO Box 2391
Irmo, SC 29150
(803) 565-9158

July 17, 2015

Governor Nikki Haley
South Carolina State House, First Floor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Ezekiel Burns
DOB: 04/04/1947

Dear Governor Haley:

I am the niece of Ezekiel Burns, who was a mental health patient at G. Weber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital (Bryan Hospital). I have several issues of concerns that I am bringing to your attention regarding my uncle's placement at Dixon Community Care Home (Care Home) in Elgin, South Carolina, which is owned by James Marion Dixon.

There is gross negligence or willful misconduct from employees at *Bryan Hospital, Santee-Wateree Mental Health Center, the Department of Health (Santee-Wateree) and Environmental Control Licensing Division (DHEC), and the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH) Office of Client Advocacy* pertaining to the mental health care of my uncle.

Please review the attached are copies of letters that I sent to Director Stuart J. Shields at Bryan Hospital and Executive Director Richard B. Guess at Santee-Wateree on July 12. The letters outlines my concerns about the placement of my 68 year old uncle to Mr. Dixon's care. It appears that all of the above agencies were unaware that the Care Home was located in "Dixonville", a drug community, in which Mr. Dixon, his son, and other relatives were arrested for distributing illegal drugs and receiving stolen property in exchange for illegal drugs.

I question how Mr. Dixon was able to obtain licensing from the state, without a criminal background, and how this home was approved as in habitable condition in an unsafe community where the owner was arrested for stolen property related to illegal drug deals. The person managing the Care Home appears intellectually challenged, and she does not serve nutrition meals.

Once I learned about the dilapidate conditions the Care Home. I addressed my issues of concern to Mr. Dixon. The exit door has bullet holes, and my uncle was sleeping on a bed with a 2x4 stabilizing it. He claimed that he was working on repairs. I went to visit my uncle again, and the home was still in disrepair. After learning about Mr. Dixon's criminal record and the condition

of the community, I contacted Robinette James and Melvin Davis at Bryan Hospital on Thursday, July 9 to remove my uncle from Mr. Dixon's care. At this time, Ms. James informed me that my uncles was permanently placed at the Care Home. On Friday, July 10, I picked my uncle up from the Care Home to protect him because Mr. James and Mr. Davis did not take any action to protect my uncle. .

Rather than confidentially considering the allegations and removing and placing my uncle in a protected environment, on Monday, July 13, Mr. Dixon informed me that Ms. James disclosed to him that I made accusations that he has a criminal past. Ms. James decision to reveal information that told her is negligent and places my life in jeopardy of retaliation.

Beside misconduct of Ms. James and Mr. Davis, I received an inappropriate voicemail message that needs to be heard from Edith Canzater, a SCDMH client advocate. With knowledge of my concerns and of the death of my uncle's sister-in-law, she warned me to return my uncle to Mr. Dixon, a man accused of criminal activities in a community known for illegal drug use and distribution by the Dixon family. Ms. Canzater and the Bryan Hospital staff failed to ensure that my uncle's placement was with a law-abiding citizen in a habitable home and in a safe community.

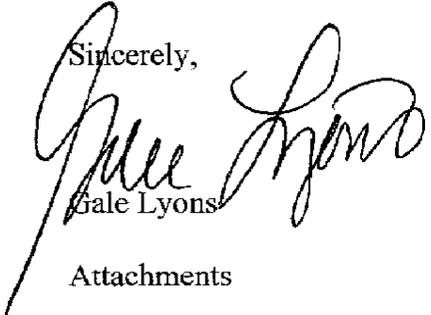
I sent Mr. Shields and Mr. Guess newspaper articles from WIS and WACH about Mr. Dixon's arrest, and I provided a website to check Mr. Dixon's criminal activities. As of the date of this letter, Mr. Shields has not contacted me regarding my concerns. I spoke with Mr. Guess who informed me that Mr. Shield instructed him to contact me to scheduling my uncle's appointment at a the Mental Health as a walk-in. I also filed a complaint with DHEC for an investigation on who certified and/or license Mr. Dixon's home under conditions noted in this letter.

This letter and the attachments are being sent to the following county, state and federal representatives for review of my concerns:

Congressmen Jim Clyburn
Senator J. Thomas McElveen, III,
Representative J. David Weeks
U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
U.S. Senator Timothy E. Scott

Your immediate attention regarding my concern are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your service to this state and for your assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Gale Lyons

Attachments

HP Officejet 4500 G510n-z All-in-One series

Fax Log for

Gale Lyons

8035463827

Jul 12 2015 11:07PM

Last Transaction

Date	Time	Type	Station ID	Duration	Pages	Result
Jul 12	11:01PM	Fax Sent	9355321	6:08	11	OK

Note:

Image on Fax Send Report is set to On

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HP Officejet 4500 G510n-z All-in-One series

Fax Log for

Gale Lyons

8035463827

Jul 12 2015 11:13PM

Last Transaction

Date	Time	Type	Station ID	Duration	Pages	Result
Jul 12	11:09PM	Fax Sent	9356352	4:10	11	OK

Note:

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FAX TRANSMISSION

July 12, 2015

To: G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital / Adult Services Division Management Team

Title	Name	Phone	Fax
Director	Stuart J. Shields, MSW, MHA	803-935-6281	803-935-5321
Medical Director	Robert Breen, MD	803-935-6279	803-935-5321
Director of Nursing	Donna McLane, MA, BSN, RN	803-935-6809	803-935-6352
Clinical Director	Allyson M. Sipes, Psy.D.	803-935-7368	803-935-5321
Administrator	Frank E. Johnson	803-935-5843	803-935-5321

From: Gale Lyons
Phone: 803-565-9158
Fax: (803)869-4119

Re: Patient-Ezekiel Burns
DOB: 04/04/1947

Pages including the cover: 11

Comments: Please see attached letter regarding patient Ezekiel Burns.

Gale Lyons
PO Box 2391
Irmo, SC 29150
(803) 565-9158

July 12, 2015

Attention: G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital/Adult Services Division Management Team

Director Stuart J. Shields

Dr. Robert Breen

Donna McLane, MA, BSN, RN

Allyson M. Sipes, Psy.D

Frank E. Johnson

G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital
220 Faison Drive
Columbia, SC 29203

Re: Ezekiel Burns
DOB: 04/04/1947

Dear Mr. Shields, Dr. Breen, Ms. McLane, Ms Sipes, and Mr. Johnson:

I am Ezekiel Burns' niece. I have several issues of concerns that requires a response and immediate action regarding my uncle's placement at Dixon Community Care Home in Elgin, South Carolina.

1. Dixon Community Care Home – Criminal Record and Drug Community

My phone records will verify that I spoke to *Melvin Davis* regarding my uncle's placement on several different occasions. I requested that Mr. Davis take my uncle to Carriage Place in Sumter to review the facility. Although Mr. Davis agreed to my request, he did not follow through.

On June 25, Mr. Davis informed me that my uncle would be released for a two-week pass visit to Dixon Community Care Home in Elgin, which is owned by James Marion Dixon. I stated to Mr. Davis not to place in Elgin because it would be difficult for his family, which includes my elderly mother, to visit with him.

On June 28, my family and I went to visit with my uncle. My uncle warned me before I entered the home that it was "raggedy" (in his own words), and he expressed that he does not want to live there. Mr. Dixon's home is a dilapidated building in need of repair, and it is managed by a woman, who is incapable. He is not being provided nutritional meals. According to my uncle, the daily meals consist of cereal and milk and sandwiches. My uncle does not eat cereal and milk, and he is accustomed to nutritional home-cooked meals.

Please be aware that my uncle has never lived in a dilapidated home. I took pictures of an entrance/exit doors that has *visible bullet holes* and the *bed that my uncle is supposed to sleep in is being held up with piece of wood*. Yet, this barely inhabitable building is certified by the state. My uncle has a right to live in a lifestyle and eat meals for which he is accustomed.

2. Ezekiel Burns placement at Dixon Community Care and released to owner James Dixon

From June 29 until July 8, I left several messages for Mr. Davis that he did not return. On July 9, I called the hospital to tell Mr. Davis that he needed to pick up my uncle from Mr. Dixon because I learned that Mr. Dixon was arrested and charged with possession of stolen property worth over \$10,000 that people gave to him for drugs. Mr. Davis transferred me to *Robinette James*, a social worker, who released my uncle to Mr. Dixon, without informing me. Attached are pictures of the Mr. Dixon's home and articles indicating him and his son Jamie L. Dixon, and other members of the Dixon family were arrested for drugs and stolen property. Mr. Dixon's criminal records can be viewed at <http://publicindex.sccourts.org/Kershaw/PublicIndex/PIsearch.aspx>.

3. Employees - incompetent, negligent, combative and rude

On July 10 (Friday), I attempted to explain to Ms. James that my uncle should not have been placed in home where the owner has been arrested for stolen property and illegal drug dealing, but she became aggressively rude and combative. In the middle of her conversation, I started recording the conversation to provide it with my complaint to her supervisor. Clearly, Ms. James was negligence in failing to do a background check on Mr. Dixon and failed to examine the community and condition of the home prior to releasing my uncle.

4. Ezekiel Burns will not be returning to Dixon Community Care Home

Before placing patients in facilities, there needs to be a criminal investigation on homecare owners and employees and a police report to ensure that the community is safe.

Since my uncle does not want to return to Dixon Community Care, he will be in the care of both his granddaughter and myself until we can find him a decent facility where he can live happily and flourish. As I stated in a previous letter to you, my uncle's wife, two daughters, and mother-in-law all passed away from cancer in the years 1998-2008.

He has suffered substantial losses, which offers some explanation of him being mentally wounded and electing to abuse drugs and other substances. Consequently, due to my uncle's history with illegal substances, I cannot permit the state to abuse its authority in failing to protect his life and physical wellbeing by placing him with Mr. Dixon.

5. Bryan Psychiatric Hospital failure to notify family of Probate Hearing and Release

My name and phone number was place with the hospital to contact and communicate with me regarding my uncle. However, employees have continuous failed to communicate with me. Mr. Davis was responsibility for contacting me about the probate court hearing. His failure caused

my uncle to be in court without any family members present, which denied me the opportunity to have my uncle released to me. The action and behavior of your staff is alarming.

6. Missing Belongings at Bryan Psychiatric Hospital

My uncle is missing clothing that I purchased and brought to the facility for him to wear. Please locate them and I will pick them up.

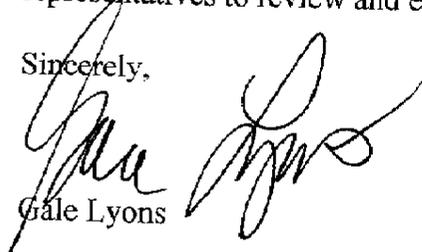
7. Money Placed on account at Bryan Psychiatric Hospital

I placed money on my uncle's account that he did not used. If this money was not given to him, please make the funds available to return to me.

Please contact me as soon as possible to provide me with a copy of the Probate Court Order and any medical appointments that are scheduled with the Mental Health Center so that I may ensure that my uncle is compliant with mental healthcare and medications.

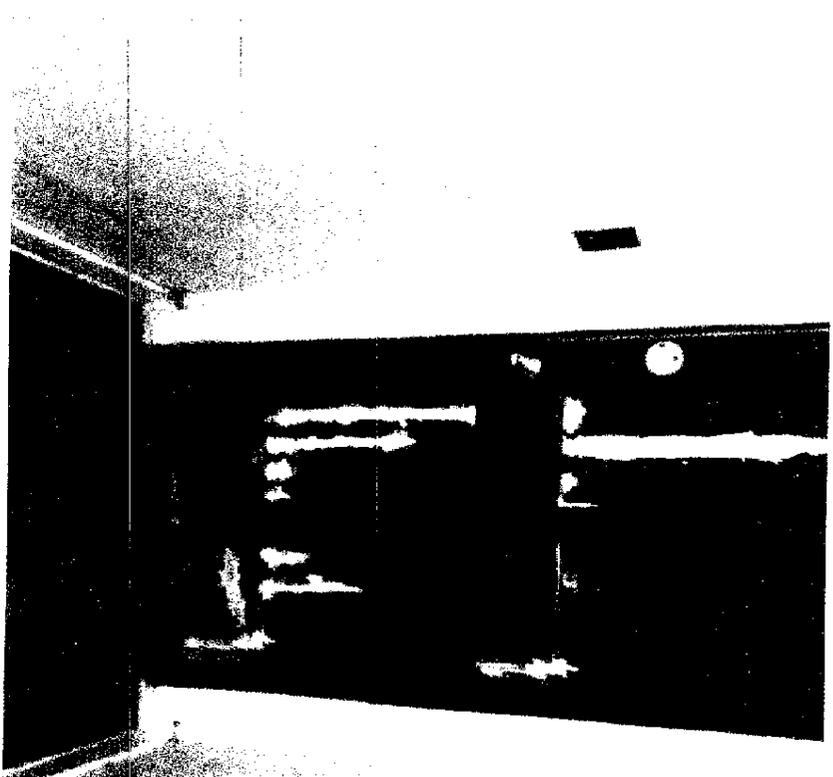
I am faxing a copy of this letter to Governor Nicki Haley and federal, state, county representatives to review and evaluate my concerns and complaints.

Sincerely,



Gale Lyons

cc: Governor Nicki Haley
Congressmen Jim Clyburn
Senator J. Thomas McElveen, III,
Representative J. David Weeks
U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham
U.S. Senator Timothy E. Scott



Police say Elgin man stole guns, pressure washers and more

by WACH Fox News Center

Posted: 02.20.2011 at 5:20 PM

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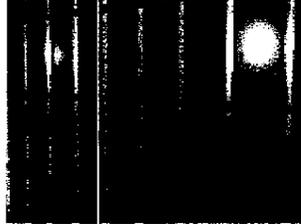
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KERSHAW COUNTY (WACH) -- An Elgin man is out on bond tonight after Kershaw County investigators say he stole thousands of dollars worth of personal property including guns. Sheriff Jim Matthews says his office along with Elgin Police Department and the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) executed a search warrant at two Dixon Road properties owned by 54-year-old James Marion Dixon of Elgin.



Officers found more than 150 stolen items, including a large quantity of power tools, several riding law mowers, chain saws, air compressors, pressure washers, air conditioning units, electronics, musical instruments, golf clubs, copper tubing and 11 rifles and shotguns.

"According to our informants people brought stolen property to members of the Dixon family so they could trade the stolen items for marijuana and crack cocaine," says Kershaw County Sheriff Jim Matthews. "This area of Kershaw County known as 'Dixonville' has a reputation for drug dealing and other criminal activity. I am determined to shut down these drug dealers so the good people of 'Dixonville' can have their community back."

So far investigators have determined the stolen items are from Kershaw, Richland and Lexington counties.

James Marion Dixon was arrested and charged with possession of stolen property over ten thousand dollars.

He is out on bond.

James Marion Dixon's son, 33-year-old Jamie L. Dixon, was recently arrested by KCSO narcotics investigators for possession with intent to distribute cocaine. Jamie Dixon is also currently out on bond.

"We hope the discovery of these items will help solve numerous break-ins throughout our community," says Sheriff Matthews.

Police say Elgin man stole guns, pressure washers and more

by WACH Fox News Center

Posted: 02.20.2011 at 6:30 PM

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Kershaw County nabs four drug suspects in Dixonville area

by Drew Stewart Posted: 02.14.2012 at 10:53 AM Updated: 02.14.2012 at 11:15 AM



Kershaw County neighborhood nabs four rshaw County Sheriff's Office investigators arrested four men Monday night on drug charges after a four month operation targeting the "Dixonville" area of Kershaw County, which is known for drug trafficking. Brandon Dixon, 23, Terrence Dixon, 24, Antwan Simmons, 32, and James Arthur, 22, all face multiple counts of distribution of crack cocaine. All four have previous narcotics arrests.

According to Kershaw County Sheriff Jim Matthews, KCSO narcotics investigators have been targeting drug activity in the Dixonville area of Kershaw County since he took office.

Matthews said, "This was the result of numerous complaints from the community. Citizens were very concerned about the constant drug dealing activity in this small area of the county which sits adjacent to a school."

"This has been going on for years and it was high time that we devoted some serious assets to clean this area up. I am hoping this will end the drug dealing in this area, at least for the present time. We will continue to monitor this area and address future drug activity when it arises," said the Sheriff.

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=719412#.VaMLNf05CUk>

Sheriff: 3 young kids found in drug house

Posted: Jan 31, 2012 10:41 PM EST < Tuesday, January 31, 2012 10:41 PM EST Updated: Feb 10, 2012 10:42 PM EST <em class="wnDate">Friday, February 10, 2012 10:42 PM EST

By Jeremy Turnage
[Email](#)

ELGIN, SC (WIS) - Kershaw County deputies are reporting a second narcotics bust in the Smyrna Road area of Elgin in just over a week and this time, three young children were found in the home.

SLIDESHOW



[Click to view a photo gallery of the arrests made in the bust.](#)

According to the Kershaw County Sheriff's Office, cocaine, marijuana and drug paraphernalia were found in a home and all in reach of three children under the age of 12.

Narcotics investigators arrested five adults on drug charges: Matakia Outten, Ashley Dixon, Donald Young, Ricky Belton and Antwan Simmons.

Outten and Simmons are also facing child endangerment charges.

Sheriff Jim Matthews said his officers will continue to target the drug dealers and drug users in this area. "I hope that these 'Dixonville' drug dealers will get the message that we are not going to let up until they move away or we put them all in jail," said Matthews. "This activity has gone on for too long and the good people who live in the area are tired of it."

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<http://www.wistv.com/story/16646473/dixonville-home-raided>

Kershaw County deputies raid area known for drug activity

by WACH Fox News Center

Posted: 01.24.2012 at 10:05 PM

KERSHAW COUNTY (WACH)-- Kershaw County deputies raided a home in the Dixonville area of Elgin over the weekend, and arrested several people and seized nine dogs.

Terrence Dixon, Brandon Dixon, James Arthur, Nathaniel Brown and Anthony Cooke were arrested at the scene on drug related charges. Authorities also plan on arresting Jonathan Nelson on drug charges.

During the search, deputies say they found a large amount of crack cocaine and eight neglected pit bulls and one rottweiler. Sheriff Jim Matthews says, "The dogs were living in unacceptable living conditions." Matthews, also stated that the Dixonville area has a history of drug crime and he promises to do everything he can to stop the spread of drugs.

According to police, at the time of the arrests, some of the suspects were already out on multiple bonds. Matthews says he will request the court revoke their bonds.

"I'm going to make a stink about this until something gets done at least I'll go to bed at night knowing that I tried, whether it gets done or not I don't know." He says his main concern is to protect the public.

The dogs were taken out of the home and are being cared for at an undisclosed location.

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=711535#.VaMKgP05CUk>