

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>10-30-08</i>
---------------------	-----------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>J00230</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>11-6-08</i>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleared 11/4/08 by attached e-mail.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
EDUCATION AND LABOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

October 27, 2008

COUNTIES:
AIKEN*
ALLENDALE
BARNWELL
BEAUFORT
CALHOUN*
HAMPTON
JASPER
LEXINGTON
ORANGEBURG*
RICHLAND*
(*PARTS OF)
DINO TERPARRA
CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COUNSEL

Loy. Jacobs
Dir. Sign.

Ms. Emma Forkner
Director

SC Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

RE: Mr. Gaylon Kyzer
SSN 251-96-4034

Dear Ms. Forkner,

I am writing to you on behalf of the above named constituent who has contacted me seeking assistance from Health and Human Services. Enclosed is a copy of all correspondence for your perusal. Any assistance that you could offer would be most appreciated.

It is an honor to represent the people of the Second Congressional District, and I value your input.

Please respond to the Midlands District Office at 1700 Sunset Blvd., West Columbia, South Carolina 29169; Fax number 803-939-0078. Thank you for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Yours very truly,

Joe Wilson

JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW/jmc
Enclosure

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
(803) 939-0041
Fax: (803) 939-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
Fax: (202) 225-2455
www.joewilson.house.gov

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. BOX 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
Fax: (843) 521-2535

TOLL FREE 1-888-381-1442

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

OCT 29 2008

RECEIVED

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES
EDUCATION AND LABOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COUNTIES:

AIKEN*
ALLENDALE
BARNWELL
BEAUFORT
CALHOUN*
HAMPTON
JASPER
LEXINGTON
ORANGEBURG*
RICHLAND*
(*PARTS OF)

DINO TEPPARA
CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COUNSEL

Consent for Release of Personal Records by Executive Agencies

Name of Agency: Medial Health HHS - Patrick Harris
To Whom It May Concern: Charlie McKinney House

I have sought assistance from Congressman Joe Wilson on a matter that may require the release of information maintained by your agency, and which may be prohibited from dissemination under the Privacy Act of 1974.

I hereby authorize you to release all relevant portions of my records or to discuss information involved in this case with Congressman Wilson or any authorized member of his staff until the matter is resolved.

Gaylon P. Kyrer
Name of Claimant- (Please Print) 12-4-50
Date of Birth

3121 Buckeye Drive
Address of Claimant W. Cole
City 29170
Zip

251-96-4034
Social Security Number Timmy
VA Claim # of OPM # (if applicable)

803-359-3987
Telephone Number- Home Kyrer

Telephone Number- Work

Gaylon Kyrer
Signature of Claimant

Today's Date

10-16-08

Please briefly explain your concern:
(use the back if necessary)

Wife's name- Nika
Need help w/ HHS

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
(803) 893-0041
FAX: (803) 893-0078

212 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
FAX: (202) 225-2456
www.joewilson.house.gov

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 FORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. Box 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

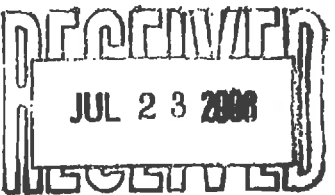
end of Oct 2006 or early Nov 2006

Gaylen started becoming fully aware of having been abused and discriminated against by Patrick Harris and started asking to get help. He felt someone should pay for the suffering he endured due to the neglect, we were told by the P+D and others that action could not be taken til his legal problems were resolved. Gaylen also feels that Lex Medical Center would have found his problem if they had read the X-Rays, (400 X-Rays in a year) → Radiologist was not reading them bk Doctors said it was chronic stomach pain.

Melisa Edmiston - 796-6080
(Daughter)

Graylon Kyzer

In May of 2006, after many visits to the Lexington Medical Center, we (the family) were instructed to take Graylon to the Richland Hospital by St Mental Health. Graylon was making visits to the Lexington Medical Center at least 3 times weekly, usually more.



He complained constantly of excruciating stomach pains. He had seizures, heart problems and blood pressure spikes throughout some of these visits. All of these dates are documented with detailed descriptions of the care he received at Lexington Medical. In many instances, Graylon was put in a holding room in the back of the Lexington ER area to wait on a case worker from Mental Health. Interpreters were rarely called in, which made the visits very confusing for Graylon. Lexington Medical Center told the family that there were no

problems with Graylon's stomach other than scar tissue that had accumulated from past surgeries. Mental Health counselors and Lexington Medical told the family that Graylon would need to "cope" with the discomfort through Mental Health counseling. His mental health did seem to deteriorate because he was in constant pain.

At this point, we took him to Palmetto Richland on May 20th. He was put in the back and we were refused the right to see him. Graylon was treated in the ER and transported to Patrick Harris, where he was physically abused. Myrtle J. Kyzer (his wife) filed complaints. Melisa Edmiston (his daughter) contacted the local mental health facility and Protection and Advocacy. From Patrick Harris Graylon was sent to the Charlie McKinney House, where he endured more abuse.

Throughout all of this, Grayson continued to plea for medical attention for his stomach. At the Charlie McKinney House, Grayson requested an ambulance and also the sheriff because he felt that he may die due to stomach pain. The staff brushed it off as part of his mental condition and refused him medical attention. An incident occurred in which a staff member's arm was injured, Grayson was then driven back to Patrick Harris. He remained here. The family was told that he would be transferred to Columbia to receive more care for his mental condition. The family was then informed by an inmate at Greenville that Grayson was in jail. Myrtle (the wife) and Melisa (the daughter) drove to see Grayson and to make sure the facility understood

how physically ill Graydon was. He was held in the infirmary there. But due to his lack of communication, he was once again abused. He was stripped of his clothing, his glasses were taken (he is legally blind with glaucoma) and he was allowed ^{also no writing utensils} only Bologna sandwiches for breakfast, lunch and dinner. When the family visited, we were informed that he had seen an attorney through a glass window with no interpreter, ~~writing utensils~~ or glasses, making it impossible for Graydon to understand. He was bailed out by the family & taken to the ER to receive care where he had a partial abdominal obstruction. Soon thereafter, Graydon was finally diagnosed as needing an ileostomy because his bowels did not work. He spent

has physically ill Grayton was. He was held in the infirmary there. But due to his lack of communication, he was once again abused. He was stripped of his clothing, his glasses were taken (he is legally blind with glaucoma) and he was allowed ^{also, no writing utensils} only bologna sandwiches for breakfast, lunch and dinner. When the family visited, we were informed that he had seen an attorney through a glass window with no interpreter, ~~writing utensils~~ or glasses, making it impossible for Grayton to understand. He was bailed out by the family & taken to the ER to receive care where he had a partial abdominal obstruction. Soon thereafter, Grayton was finally diagnosed as needing an ileostomy because his bowels did not work. He spent

time in ICU recovering. Since his ilioostomy, his mental and physical condition has improved greatly. However, he was charged with assault with intent to kill due to the incident at the Charlie McEkinney House. The family spent two years awaiting trial, as it was cancelled 10 times due to various reasons. (lack of interpreter, Gaylon not understanding - it is all documented). Gaylon pled out to simple assault even though he felt he did nothing wrong. The caregiver that was injured had neglected him.

All of this can be verified through hospital records (where complaints of abuse and neglect were also filed at Lexington & Richland), Mental Health records, and through attorneys with

Richland Hospital contacts for May 2006

patient Jason - Michelle Birley
396-2757

family complained about

- patient not bathed or shaven
- filthy room
- no interpreter
-

interpreter was then called after
complaints

Definitely Taking Requests
808-1286

Zoe Hoover - nursing supervisor

Bridges - chief operations officer

Katrina Benjamin - counselor
296-5993

Mike Hedgecock - supervisor
434-4813

Registration desk -
Sheannah
Channie Baxley

- they would not give the family
the name of the person in
charge of psychiatric counseling
Refused to on May 21, 2006
at 4:17 pm.

From: Lena Girgis
To: Denise Epps; Jan Polatty
Date: 11/4/2008 1:02 pm
Subject: Re: Log # 0230 due 11/6/08

Log # 230

CC: Brenda James; Jennifer Lynch; Mark Orf; Robe...
That is fine with me. Thank you. We'll close it.

Lena A. Girgis
Medicaid Eligibility & Beneficiary Services
SCDHHS
1801 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 898-2502
(803) 255-8235 FAX

>>> Denise Epps 11/4/2008 12:17 PM >>>
Lena, as I mentioned last Friday, this is not an issue for our agency. Joanne Coefield in Cong. Wilson's office knows this and told me that DHHS does not need to respond since she also sent a copy of the Kyzer family's correspondence to DMH.

I doublechecked with Rochelle Caton, DMH's client advocate, who said she is familiar with Mr. Kyzer and his family's complaint and they are handling this and will follow through with Cong. Wilson's ofc.

Mr. Kyzer is alleging a misdiagnosis of his illness and abuse by Lex. Cty. Hospital and the DMH facility, Patrick Harris, in 2006. He doesn't have a complaint re: his Medicaid - open SSI since 1991.

I let the Kyzer family know that DMH is looking into the matter and will be in touch with them. I also gave them my name/# if there's anything else I can do to assist them.

OK to close with this email?

Many thanks,
Denise