

From: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
To: 'Phillips, Katherine "Katie" A.' <PHILLIKA@dhec.sc.gov>
CC: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 1/2/2018 11:04:01 AM
Subject: RE: Question

Good Morning Katie,

I spoke with this constituent today and went over a bit of what we discussed.

Her name is Nicole Walukewicz and her phone number is 864-287-8890.

There were apparently two incidents, one at NHC and the other at AnMed. Could you please call her and see if there needs to be any follow up with the facilities. Her description of what they (the facilities) told her compared to what we discussed as the actual situation are quite remarkably distinct.

Thank you for your help.

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Phillips, Katherine "Katie" A. [mailto:PHILLIKA@dhec.sc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Danny Varat
Cc: Catherine McNicoll
Subject: RE: Question

Danny,

Do you have a quick minute to discuss this constituent concern? Also, if you have the constituent's contact information, we can have the appropriate staff contact the constituent to discuss his concerns.

As an FYI, DHEC does not prohibit restraints/bed alarms/rails. It needs to be well documented in the resident's record that less restrictive means have been utilized unsuccessfully and ultimately a physician has to order it.

Please let us if you can chat.

Thanks,
Katie
Katie Phillips
Legislative Affairs
S.C. Dept. of Health & Environmental Control
Office: (803) 898-9119
Mobile: (803) 530-5679

From: Danny Varat [mailto: DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 5:18 PM
To: Phillips, Katherine "Katie" A. <PHILLIKA@dhec.sc.gov>
Cc: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>

Katie, Lieutenant Governor Bryant received this message on Facebook. Can you please review it and give me your thoughts? Why are the restraints not allowed? What else can you tell me about this type of scenario?
Thanks

Danny

Medical Care Rant. DHEC in all their (lack of) wisdom decided bed restraints are not allowed in step down hospitals or nursing homes. This includes bed rails and bed alarms. Now who are the most likely people to be in these facilities? The elderly with memory issues. Last week, mama, who was supposed to have a bed alarm at a facility that can have them, (rehabilitation hospital), got up out of her bed and fell, breaking her right femur that required her second surgery for a broken leg in 3 months. Either the bed alarm wasn't on or no one responded. I did not want her to go back to the nursing home she went to because in 2.5 months, she made no progress walking. Today we were allowed to transport her back to the rehab hospital on one condition, I provide private care for all hours she is not in rehabilitation because she is a fall liability. THIS IS NOT COVERED BY MEDICARE OR BCBS! Meaning for 12 hours a day we are paying 17.50 an hour and at night 31.50 an hour until 7 am. If we could not afford that care our only choice was to send her to a nursing home until her money ran out (at 7200.00 a month) and it would have to be one that accepted medicaid when she ran out of money, of which I know of only one in Anderson that accepts medicaid and the patient care giver ratio is disproportionately low.