

Friday, May 19, 2017  
sent via email and certified mail

Carla Vaughn, Program Director  
PSCH - Island House  
4029 Long Beach Rd.  
Island Park, NY 11558  
tel: (516) 432-1935

Dear Ms Vaughn,

This letter is to document our in-person conversation today at 10am, upon my arrival at Island House.

You asked about my current lodging situation. I said that it has not changed since August 2015: I sleep in a bathtub in a house that is in severe disrepair and that lacks basic amenities; I try to visit Island House at least weekly in order to shower; I don't have access to the 95% of my clothing that is in storage, so I wear pajamas most days.

You expressed your distress, and you asked whether I thought that it might be better for me to be staying at Island House. I agreed: it would definitely be much better for me to be staying at Island House, and I fervently wish that PSCH would give me written permission to hire "outside" companies to do the work I need done in the apartment.

I reminded you that I had never finished moving into my apartment. Its 'make-ready' was completed on August 10, 2015, and the construction accident occurred only ten days later, on August 20, 2015. For me to be staying at the apartment now, I'd have to finish the move-in process. Which means that PSCH would have to permit various move-in tasks -- my cleaned rugs delivered and laid, an etagere erected, my furniture transported and moved in, my "freshly" cleaned clothing brought from storage and hung up, my boxes of belongings unpacked and put away, etc. It is work that I cannot do by myself due to my physical disabilities, work that depends on "outside" help. Since PSCH refuses to give me written permission to hire outside firms, I'm stuck. It is shameful, and the shame is PSCH's.

I appreciate your concern, Carla, and it is well placed. You are right to be uneasy about the circumstances that PSCH has put me in, and that PSCH continues to endorse by its inaction. Clearly it is a state of affairs that imperils my already-fragile mental health.

In our conversation you confirmed that you received my email'd letter regarding the update to my email address. We did not speak about the new mess made by PSCH in my apartment (which I had reported on May 4, 2017).

If I've mis-stated anything in my summary of today's talk, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Juli Straehle  
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