

Fresh Air Proposed Regulations Hearing

The word on the street (i.e. John Winske of DPC) is "*The regulations being proposed are weak. How weak? Weaker than a week-old kitten; so weak as to be useless. The Baker Administration should be ashamed of these proposed regulations. Instead of a bold step forward for enhanced treatment, these proposed regulations may actually be a step backwards. We need to show up next week and have our voice heard.*"

[Click here for the proposed regulations.](#)
[Click here for the hearing notice.](#)

When:

Tuesday, September 15, 2-4 p.m.

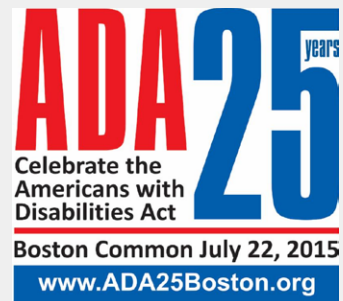
Where:

DMH Legal Office
25 Staniford Street
Plaza West
Boston

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Mental Health is proposing regulations under the authority of M.G.L. c. 19, ss. 1, 18, 19 and c. 123 s. 23, pursuant to Chapter 476 of the Acts of 2014. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of receiving written and oral testimony on its proposed actions. The Department describes the substance of the actions as follows:

The proposed regulation, 104 CMR 27.13 Human Rights, implements Chapter 476 of the Acts of 2014, which added "reasonable daily



Awards Gala

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access to fresh air" to the list of rights of individuals hospitalized in psychiatric facilities operated, contracted or licensed by DMH. The statute requires DMH to promulgate regulations establishing what constitutes "reasonable daily access," and provisions for the safety of staff supervising such access. The statute also provides for an appeal of the denial of such access, in accordance with DMH regulations.

METHOD OF COMMENT: Individuals planning to offer oral testimony on the proposed regulations mentioned above should arrive and register at the hearing site 30 minutes before their intent to testify and provide a written copy or summary of their testimony at the hearing. Written comments may be submitted at the hearing or mailed to the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Mental Health, 25 Staniford Street, Boston, MA 02114; or Fax to (617) 626-8242; or submitted to e-mail address: DMH-regulations@state.ma.us - NO LATER THAN September 11, 2015. Comment Period ends at the close of the Public Hearing on September 15, 2015.


ACCOMMODATION: If you plan to attend the public hearing and wish to request the accommodation of a sign language or other interpreter, contact DMH Legal at least 10 days in advance of the hearing date at (617) 626-8236.

Thank you,

Paul Spooner,
Executive Director

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