



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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September 15, 2014

To: Executive Director, Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers
Superintendents, State Mental Health Facilities
Executive Directors, Local Mental Health Authorities
Executive Director, Disability Rights Texas
Members of the Local Area Network Advisory Committee (LANAC)
Members of the Council for Advising and Planning (CAP) for the Prevention and
Treatment of Mental and Substance Use Disorders

From: Ross C. Robinson, Director 
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Program Services

Request for Comments

**Chapter 417, Subchapter K
Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation in DSHS State Hospitals**

Due: September 29, 2014

The attached draft rules concerning abuse, neglect, and exploitation in DSHS state hospitals is a markup of the revisions to the current rules. The revised rules were developed by a cross-functional interagency workgroup that included staff from the Department of Family and Protective Services, the Department of Aging and Disability Resources, the Department of State Health Services, and Disability Rights Texas. Additionally, the draft rules were reviewed by CAP Rule Subcommittee members who provided suggestions for improvement. Many of the CAP's suggestions have been incorporated in the draft rules.

Please submit your comments via email to MHSArules@dshs.state.tx.us with the phrase "417-K, 9-12-14, Informal Comments" in the subject line or by US mail to Janet Fletcher, Department of State Health Services, P.O. Box 149347, Mail Code 2018, Austin, TX 78714

Call Janet Fletcher with questions or concerns at 512/206-5044. Thank you.