



Clark County Sheriff's Office

707 West 13th Street • PO Box 410 • Vancouver, WA 98666 • (360) 397-2366 • Fax (360) 397-2367

Chuck E. Atkins, Sheriff

Washington State Department of Health
Health Systems Quality Assurance
Complaint Intake
PO Box 47857
Olympia WA 98504-7857

June 7, 2018

Re: Daybreak Youth Services Complaint

I am writing today regarding concerns my office has about Daybreak Youth Services located at 11910 NE 154th St, Brush Prairie, Washington. This facility is an inpatient and outpatient youth facility which treats substance abuse disorders and mental health issues. I believe Daybreak Youth Services is licensed by the Washington State Department of Health.

Over the last several months the Clark County Sheriff's Office has responded to numerous calls for service at the Brush Prairie facility. Many of these calls involve juvenile runaways, physical altercations, and sexual assaults. Calls to the facility are so numerous that our office now specifically tracks calls for service at this location.

Through our contacts with staff and clients at the facility we are now concerned for the safety of the staff working in the facility as well as the youth who are receiving treatment at the facility. We are also concerned that staff is reluctant, either on their own initiative or by direction from management, to report crimes or disturbances occurring at the facility.

Specifically, on May 28, 2018, deputies from my office responded to a reported disturbance at the facility and spoke to staff about facility conditions. One of my deputy's wrote the following in the resulting police report:

I spoke with multiple staff members who said they lose control over the facility all the time and are told not to call 911. Dispatch confirmed that an unidentified person called 911 and it did not come from the staff even after losing total control of the youth inside. (CCSO 18-4941)

In addition to my office's response to calls at the facility, I recently learned that Clark County Juvenile Court has significant concerns over the safety of the juveniles residing at the facility. It's my understanding that county's juvenile court administrator has, or will shortly, prohibit juvenile court staff from placing juveniles in the Brush Prairie facility.



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In the interest of writing a brief letter I have not included all of the information we have available about our concerns with this facility. I will make my staff available as needed in order to assist the Department of Health in exercising its regulatory responsibility. I also believe that the Clark County Juvenile Court will be able to provide additional information as well.

Please accept this letter as my formal request for an investigation into the conditions and management practices at the Daybreak Youth Services facility in Brush Prairie.

Sincerely,

Chuck E. Atkins

Sheriff Chuck E. Atkins