



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER
Division of Mental Health Advocacy
31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Tel: (973) 648-3847 Fax: (973) 648-7799

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JOSEPH E. KRAKORA
Public Defender

CARL J. HERMAN
Director

NORA R. LOCKE
Managing Attorney

For Immediate Release July 3, 2019

Contact: Ann Portas
973-648-3847

Public Defender Files Brief Seeking Relief for Patients at Greystone

The New Jersey Office of the Public Defender continues its legal battle to improve conditions at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital by filing a reply brief in support of their motion for injunctive relief. The brief filed today includes statements from two more psychiatrists, both of whom had previously been employed at Greystone full-time but left, in part, due to demands from administration at the hospital to engage in unethical practices. Each of these psychiatrists now provides on-call services at Greystone several times per month and remain familiar with the conditions at the hospital.

The statements of the two psychiatrists describe the violence that takes place at the hospital, describing how some patients are so fearful they are unable to sleep at night. They also depict Greystone as a place that is significantly mismanaged, where administrators deflate the number of assaults that take place, where there is no intent or will to find a solution to life-threatening conditions, and where even a minimal standard of care for patients is not met.

Dr. Aleksander Miceveski describes how, during a 2017 investigation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, concerns were raised about whether the conditions at Greystone warranted a report to the Department of Justice. In his statement to the Public Defender he recounts an exchange with an investigator:

“When she asked me if she should make a report to the Department of Justice, I answered, ‘no.’ This is the single greatest regret of my professional career. I had hoped things would become better. I was wrong.”