



CHELSA WAGNER
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February 10, 2014

Via First Class Mail

Woodrow A. Myers, Jr., M.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Corizon Health, Inc.
105 West Park Drive, Suite 200
Brentwood, TN 37027

RE: Healthcare at Allegheny County Jail

Dear Dr. Myers:

As the Controller of Allegheny County, it is my duty to protect taxpayer funds and ensure that all public monies are spent appropriately. As a member of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board, I have the responsibility to ensure that the Jail is operating safely and efficiently for the benefit of the inmates and residents of Allegheny County.

This letter places Corizon on formal notice of my grave and serious concerns about the healthcare provided to inmates at the Allegheny County Jail (the "Jail") and the working conditions to which Corizon is subjecting its employees and agents at the Jail. I regard the current situation as intolerable and outrageous, and I fully expect necessary changes to be urgently implemented so that Corizon can comply with its contractual duties, its professional standards, and its obligations to the inmates, its employees and the residents of Allegheny County.

On September 1, 2013, Corizon began providing inmate healthcare services at the Jail. Under its contract, Corizon can receive as much as \$11.5 million from Allegheny County. Corizon's contract is one of the largest, in terms of dollar value, in the County. Thus, you can imagine my concern when I read the facts and allegations reported in a December 8, 2013 article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, "*Allegheny County Jail Health Care Provider Struggling, Emails Show.*" The emails referenced in the article, which I have personally reviewed, document Corizon's apparent failure to meet basic responsibilities for inmate healthcare by not maintaining appropriate staffing levels to distribute essential medication. The article goes on to recount a situation where pregnant inmates appear to have been "abandoned" in the intake area for 24 hours. If Corizon lacks the staff to dispense routine medication and attend to pregnant women, I am left to wonder what other services it is not providing. I certainly hope that Corizon is not intentionally "cutting corners" or providing the absolute minimum care to maximize its profits under its contractual arrangement.

My concerns were further raised when I read recent media accounts of worker unhappiness in the Jail because of Corizon's management practices, leading the workers to seek union representation. Corizon then made a decision I regard as unconscionable: the termination of Sister Barbara Finch, a known union supporter, a dedicated nurse and member of the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose ministry is providing healthcare to prisoners.

In addition to these events, my office has received numerous complaints concerning Corizon, a summary of which is recounted below.

- Corizon does not submit paperwork in a timely manner to allow discharged prisoners to receive medical assistance causing delays in treatment.
- Inmates are discharged without necessary and/or correct prescriptions. It is then very difficult for those discharged inmates to receive corrective action from Corizon.
- Corizon refuses to treat inmates with certain mental health issues, characterizing those issues as "past conditions" that are not Corizon's obligations to treat.
- Corizon is not properly staffing the Jail, causing professional employees to perform healthcare tasks with which they are unfamiliar or as to which they have not been trained.
- Corizon does not maintain sufficient physician staffing levels to meet the needs of inmates suffering from mental health problems.
- Professionals at the jail lack necessary equipment and supplies to properly provide inmate care, and those professionals are not being scheduled with appropriate staffing levels to ensure timely patient care.

When Corizon first assumed its duties, its representatives appeared at the Jail Oversight Board meeting on September 5, 2013. Corizon assured the Board of its commitment to provide "24-hour" care to inmates, and touted the value it would provide to the Jail by its "wealth of knowledge" accumulated by being one of the biggest correctional health providers in America. At subsequent meetings of the Board, Corizon representatives gave no indication of any ongoing difficulties at the Jail. Indeed, at the meeting on December 5, a Corizon representative spoke about diabetes management at the Jail, with no reference to the serious medication issues that would come to light on December 8 in the Post-Gazette article. Corizon's lack of candor and disclosure to the Jail Oversight Board is concerning and striking.

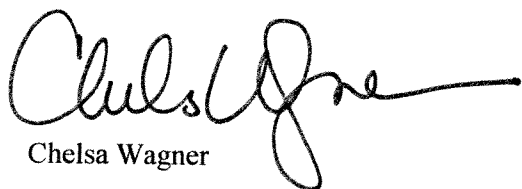
I had hoped to personally raise the above issues at the most recent Jail Oversight Board meeting on February 6, 2014. However, inexplicably, Corizon did not send a representative to meet with the Board.

A period of transition is often experienced in a new contract. That period, however, has long since expired. Additionally, one would expect Corizon's transitional period to be minimal in this regard, given its national scope, its expertise and the fact that Corizon actively observed healthcare operations at the Jail in the months prior to September 1, 2013.

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Under Article XII of the applicable contract, Allegheny County has the right to assess monetary penalties if Corizon does not fulfill its obligations in a "timely and professional manner." Should the matters in this letter not be resolved in a satisfactory manner, let me be perfectly clear that I, as the Controller of Allegheny County, will exercise every contractual and legal remedy available to ensure that taxpayer dollars are not being given to Corizon for any services that fall below recognized standards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chelsa Wagner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chelsa Wagner

CW:lfb

Cc: Michael Barfield, Ph.D., Corizon, Health Service Administrator
Members of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board
Warden Orlando Harper, Allegheny County Jail