



**DISTRICT #12
BROWARD MEETING MINUTES
5/14/2024**

OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES			
Shazad Kashar, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Freyre, Regional Ombudsman Mgr.	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
D’Andra Grant, QC Analyst	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Cole, District Ombudsman Mgr.	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paul Wilson, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scott Colton, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Fred Narayanan, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Pagones, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blanca Merchan, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann, Garfinkel, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ifthekar Rafiq, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Diana Gonzalez, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ronna Brown, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sundara Sridhar, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Noel Giannone, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Dennis Michael Stroud, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Stephan Adelson, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deborah Marshall	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Monique Farquharson, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Jolliff, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Ram Tawari, OMB Trainee	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trudy Bell, ombudsman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Terressea A. Smith, ombudsman	Present <input type="checkbox"/>	Maggie Zalamea, OMB Trainee	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

GUEST(S)
Michael Courtney, president of the Resident Council Hillcrest Emerald Health & Rehab
Kim Steiner-Out, Dept. of Health, Medical Quality Assurance Investigator

OPEN SESSION

- Called to order at 01:05 PM Quorum Established: Yes No
- Open Session Statement Minutes Approved: Yes No **02/13/2024.**

UPDATES/REPORTS

- D’Andra Grant, QC Analyst, read the Open Session Statement. Roll was taken and quorum was established by vast majority.
- Presentation of all attendees around the table.
- Elizabeth Cole, District Ombudsman Manager presented newly certified Ombudsman Barbara Jolliff, not present, who received her official certification. Also ready to be certified: Ram Tewari who has completed his training and is awaiting certification package. On field training now is Maggie Zalamea and D’Andra Grant who were also present. Maggie will train with Ann and D’Andra with Elizabeth and Ronna.
- Elizabeth Cole announced that we have presented Ann Garfinkel the OMB of the Year Award.
- Paul Wilson, OMB State Rep mentioned there were no new State Council updates to report at this time as he was not in attendance at the last meeting in Orlando.
- Ann Garfinkel, OMB brought copies of the latest news from the Federal Register re: minimum staffing levels final ruling.
- Elizabeth Cole reminded the volunteers to pick up their Supervisor of Elections packets to distribute to their assigned facilities.



- Ronna Brown, OMB distributed copies of the settlement agreement on a case presented during the conference regarding Medicare contractors (facilities) applying an ‘improvement standard’ in making claims determination regarding rehab services, such as physical therapy, etc.
- Elizabeth Cole presented the 5-year anniversary certificates to Paul Wilson and Iftekhar Rafiq.
- Last open session council meeting minutes were distributed and approved by Ann Garfinkel and seconded by Iftekhar Rafiq.

TRAINING

- Kim Steiner-Out, Investigator with the Dept. of Health presentation on unlicensed facilities and medical professionals and distributed a list of Most Common Unlicensed Violations and by profession. Also gave us the website to check on professional licenses.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Open Council meeting is scheduled for August 13th, 2024, at 1:00 PM at the Tamarac office, located at: 8333 W McNab Rd, Tamarac FL 33321.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- OMB Diana Gonzalez asked if unlicensed staff could be reported and Kim said yes, and that you can check their website: [https:// doh.state.fl.us](https://doh.state.fl.us) to check status of professional licenses.
- Michael Courtney, president of the resident council of Emerald Nursing and Rehab asked the Kim what ULA stands for and she mentioned Unlicensed Activities
- Paul Wilson, ombudsman asked about a young resident with some disabilities who appeared to be out of place in an AFCH, if there were other facilities that have younger residents. Many OMB mentioned there are young residents who have disabilities that live in these types of residences. Ann Garfinkel, ombudsman suggested that the facility could contact local community programs that the resident could attend. Many OMB mentioned of younger residents living in some of their ALF’s.

ADJOURNMENT

- Open Session adjourned at 1:40 PM

CLOSED SESSION:

- Closed Session called to order at 01:45 PM
- Case Investigation strategies discussed and the need for volunteers to conduct more investigations.
- Materials (brochures, forms, awards, etc) and DOEA gift boxes were distributed.

- Closed Session adjourned at 2:15 PM