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Every person within this state ought to find a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries or wrongs which one may receive in person, property or character. . .

Con. 1786, ch.1 art 4

February 16, 2016

Sarah London,
Legal Counsel to Governor Shumlin Via Email to sarah.london@vermont.gov

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

Dear Ms. London:

I am addressing this public records request to you because I have been informed that you are the custodian of records for the Governor's Office.

Background: The following quotes, concerning the judicial process for obtaining a forced medication order, are from a recent interview the Governor did with Mark Johnson;
"We know that for the short term - and I'm not a big Pharma guy - for the short term medications will get them back to a point where they can begin their recovery. That's been proven."
And

“And if you go talk to judges, if you go to talk to mental health providers, if you go talk to folks who are running our hospitals, they will all — they will tell you — go talk to our hospitals, hospital folks, they'll tell you that [the time involved in the present judicial process] is cruel”

Records Requested

Pursuant to Vermont's Public Records Act, I am requesting access to:

1. Written communications in any form received by the Governor from any Vermont judge, health care provider, Vermont Chapter of NAMI, Dr. Simpatico, DVHA, DMH, Peter Albert (Brattleboro Retreat) or Jill Olson (lobbyist for the hospital association).

This request is limited to records created on or after October 1, 2015 and that mention involuntary medication by that or similar term.

2. Any records in the possession of the Governor's Office relied on for the Governor's statement above that it has been proven that they work.

For both requests:

Any records which may identify patients should be redacted to hide identifying information.

If you claim that any records are exempt from disclosure, please identify each such record, the grounds for exemption and a brief explanation why it applies.

If any records are supplied with redactions, other than as described in the preceding sentence, please state the nature of the redacted material and the grounds for redaction.

If the records are contained in a separate file, or are otherwise segregated, I would like to inspect that file at your earliest convenience.

For any responsive records that are in digital format, I would prefer delivery of those records by email to the above email address.

If it is estimated that the cost of copying the records that are responsive to this request will be more than \$20.00, please let me know and I will come in to review them, prior to copying.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at the above phone numbers or respond to this email.

Thank you for your anticipated timely response to this request.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "B. J. [unclear]".