

July 2, 2009

**Superintendent Message: Update on USDOJ Return Visit to OSH**

I'm following up on my earlier message to you regarding the return of the US Department of Justice to the Salem and Portland hospital campuses later this month.

Given that our own Oregon DOJ attorneys have been in close communication with the USDOJ since the initial tour in 2006, this second visit is neither a surprise nor unexpected. USDOJ has been monitoring our progress from a distance and they are now returning to see our progress first-hand.

This visit should not be a disruption to, or distraction from, our hospital operations. The treatment and care of patients will continue to be the highest priority of hospital staff and the USDOJ visitors will respect that priority. For example, if a patient requires attention while a group is on a ward, the members of the group will not interfere with staff who need to attend to that patient.

To date, we have received the USDOJ's documentation request and who will be participating during the week-long tour beginning July 27 in Salem.

Members of the USDOJ team will be escorted at all times when they are on the hospital campuses. There will be five groups comprised of a USDOJ expert, a USDOJ attorney, an Oregon expert, an Oregon DOJ attorney and an OSH tour guide.

The USDOJ document request, which contains about 100 items, is similar to the request made before the 2006 visit. The areas of interest include staffing, medical and nursing care, behavior support and treatment plans, seclusion and restraint, suicide observation, policies on record keeping, patient education (ages 18-21), discharge planning and community integration.

Earlier this morning, Pam Palke sent documents via e-mail to all of you addressing frequently asked questions regarding the USDOJ visit and OSH accomplishments since their initial visit. Please share this information with members of your staff who may not check e-mail often and, review these FAQs in your upcoming staff meetings. If you have other questions that are not addressed here, please talk to your supervisor or manager. As more details become available, I will continue to provide updates on the USDOJ visit.

Thanks to all of you for all that you do for our patients and for your fellow staff members, every shift of every day.