

Lisa Guzman - Rochester

Dear Attorney General James,

My name is Lisa Guzman and I have given you my statement before about my son Evan Guzman. I feel the need to write again to make another statement. To refresh your memory my son is currently in the Monroe County Jail on Murder Charges. He was charged on July 5th, 2021, after coming home from prison in April 2021. Evan came home on a AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment Order) This system and every system that was set up to help him greatly failed my son. I am sure you do not want to read the same email again. My question to you this time is. In your quest to fix the failing Mental Health System have you talked to the Field Officers of OMH? I myself dealt with one in trying to make the outside agency Rochester Regional Mental Health give the proper care to my son Evan. Her name is Elizabeth Haley and she is the Field Officer for the Western Region of OMH. In the beginning she was very helpful, until everything went south for Evan. She then denied that OMH had anything to do with the outside agencies. Yet I myself working for the MIT Team out of the Rochester Psychiatric Center knew this to be a false statement. At that point I asked for a full investigation of Evan's treatment from the time he started until July 5th. On August 31, 2021 Ms. Haley responded to me via email that she had consulted with executive leadership at OMH and there was a plan to move forward. They would look more closely at the AOT program, and any involved programs involved with my son. I contacted Ms. Haley in October knowing this would not be done in a week. I contacted her by email asking for the documents of their findings. Ms. Haley and I always email each other except this one time. She called me and told me under no circumstances would I get the findings due to HIPPA. I stated that I was the one who asked for the investigation and that I did have HIPPA for my son. She stated that I was not going to get the findings. I have all the emails. It is horrifying what happens to our loved ones suffering from a brain disease. When they have a dual diagnosis it is terrifying as a parent to know that the system is meant to fail them. Now he is at the mercy of Jail Deputies who have no understanding of mental illness. In the SHU for 200 days with no real treatment for his illness. This could have all been avoided if AOT and Rochester Regional had done their job.