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The Mental Hygiene Legal Service (MHLS) Program

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 Time: 10:00 AM—11:00 AM

Speaker: Sheila E. Shea Director, Mental Hygiene Legal Service, New York State

Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third District

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Session Overview

The NYS Court System provides legal services, advice and assistance to persons in NYS receiving care or alleged to be in need of care at inpatient and community-based facilities for individuals with mental disabilities & certain patients or residents of residential health care facilities.

Very few people in the community are aware of this important service for a vulnerable segment of the human service population.

The service provides advice and representation regarding standards of care and other matters affecting the civil liberties of persons receiving care at facilities for individuals with mental disabilities. This includes assisting persons involuntarily placed in a mental health unit or facility.

In this session you will learn about:

- The purpose and functions of the Mental Hygiene Legal Service (MHLS)
- Who is eligible for these services in New York State
- How individuals or family members can find out more information or access their services
- The regions of the system (Judicial Districts and Field Offices)





Upcoming Teach ins:

- March 19: The New York State Department of Health Hospital Quality Complaint System for Consumers
- April 23: To be announced
- May 21: Rhonda Schwartz, Regional Administrator, Administration for Community Living (ACL)
- June 25: To be announced
 If you missed an earlier Teach in, visit
 Telephone Teach-Ins | StateWide (nysenior.org)

Instructions and Other Information

- Sessions are in webinar mode, all attendees video and audio will be off. Attendees will be able to type in their questions during the Q&A portion of the meeting.
- Materials from Teach Ins are posted on our website www.nysenior.org
- When on our website,
 - 1. On the navigation bar, click on Our Helplines
 - 2. In the drop down menu, click on Patient's Rights Helpline
 - 3. Under "Information for Hospital Patients", click on Telephone Teach-in. This will take

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NY STATEWIDE SENIOR ACTION COUNCIL

is a not-for-profit grassroots membership organization made up of individuals and organizations with an interest in improving the lives of senior citizens. Funding for our Patient
Advocates Program is being
provided through the
generous support of the
NYS Legislature and
administered by the NYS
Office for the Aging

STATE WIDE

New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.

The **Helpline** is toll free at

800-333-4374

Information is also available on the StateWide website at

www.nysenior.org

E-mail questions to: patientsrights@nysenior.org