

VIA EMAIL ONLY

PRISON LAW OFFICE

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May 31, 2016

Ms. Lucy Rand, Assistant Attorney General Office of the Arizona Attorney General 1275 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007-2926 Lucy.Rand@azag.gov

## RE: *Parsons v. Ryan*, CV-12-0601-DMD Notification of Possible Communicable Disease Outbreak ASPC-Perryville, San Carlos Unit

Dear Ms. Rand,

I write to notify ADC that during our monitoring tour of ASPC-Perryville on May 23-24, 2016, we encountered dozens of prisoners living in the San Carlos Unit who reported (and showed to us) unexplained and unresolved rashes and skin conditions. Some of the women had what clearly looked like scabies and the others had an undifferentiated rash. Most women reported long delays in receiving any treatment, despite submitting multiple Health Needs Requests, and also reported that the treatment they had been provided of skin cream and antibiotics was not resolving the condition.

The prisoners we spoke with also reported that cleaning supplies for the dormitories, especially the bathrooms, were in short supply or watered down. The prisoners' medical records showed a variety of diagnoses, including scabies, MRSA, staph, folliculitis, pseudomonas bacterial infection, shingles, psoriasis, contact dermatitis, allergies, and dry skin. Prisoners who had rashes that looked very similar to one another's reported that they had been given extremely different diagnoses. Some prisoners reported having the rash since November or December of 2015, most reported having it for at least several months. Many of the women showed us open oozing sores on their legs, arms, and torsos, as a result of uncontrollable scratching, especially at night in their sleep. A list of 31 women who reported the unexplained rashes and skin lesions to us are listed at Attachment A to this letter.

Pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code R-6-202b, the administrator of a correctional facility is a mandated reporter to the county health department of all cases of suspected or confirmed outbreaks of communicable diseases. Medical providers have a separate statutory

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requirement to report all suspected or confirmed outbreaks, pursuant to Ariz. Admin. C. R9-6-202a. Such notifications must occur within one to five working days, depending upon the suspected disease. See http://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/communicable-disease-reporting/reportable-diseases-list.pdf.

We request that ADC and Corizon provide written notification to the Maricopa County Department of Public Health of this suspected or confirmed outbreak within 24 hours, and that ADC and Corizon take all necessary steps to cooperate with the County Department of Public Health to identify the source(s) of the communicable disease and to stop its continued outbreak. We request that you provide us written confirmation that ADC and Corizon have notified the county, and that no retaliatory actions be taken against the prisoners reporting these problems.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Corene Kendrick

Corene Kendrick, Staff Attorney

cc: Counsel of Record Maricopa County Department of Public Health Prisoners Listed in Appendix A (without Appendix A)