

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy and Procedure		
Rights of Persons Hospitalized		
Effective: April 2014	Revised: December 2024	Due to Review: December 2026

POLICY


In an effort to support the empowerment and recovery of each person admitted for care, and in compliance with 18 V.S.A. § 7701, the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) adheres to the Vermont Department of Mental Health’s, “Notice of your Rights as a Person in the Custody or Temporary Custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health.” Hospitalized persons will receive this document and be encouraged to review initially as well as throughout hospitalization. This document is also available on the Department of Mental Health website.

PROCEDURE

- A. Upon admission, a copy of the documents titled “*Notice of Your Rights as a Person in the Custody or Temporary Custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health*” and the Agency of Human Services (AHS) “*Notice of Privacy Practices*” are provided.
- B. A Copy of the “*Notice of Your Rights as a Person in the Custody or Temporary Custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health*” shall be posted conspicuously on every care unit.
- C. If a hospitalized person does not understand the notices, VPCH personnel shall inform them of their rights using a method to facilitate understanding, including the use of alternative communication techniques, language translation, or other aids, as well as their ability to ask Legal Aid, Disability Rights Vermont, or a Peer Representative.

References:

- 18 V.S.A. § 7701
- [Notice of your Rights as a Person in the Custody or Temporary Custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health](#)
- Agency of Human Services [Notice of Privacy Practices](#)

Approved by	Signature	Date
Emily Hawes, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Mental Health	 <p>DocuSigned by: Emily Hawes C50275615A62462...</p>	12/6/2024