



Travis County Hospital District

1111 East Cesar Chavez, Suite B

Austin, Texas 78702

Phone (512) 978-8000 Fax (512) 978-8156

April 5, 2006

John Breeding, PhD
Coalition for the Abolition of Electroshock in Texas
5306 Fort Clark Drive
Austin, TX 78745

Dear Dr. Breeding:

Thank you for bringing your concerns about the provision of electroshock therapy at Seton Shoal Creek Hospital.

The current role of the newly-formed Travis County Hospital District is to contract for the provision of healthcare services based upon the District's strategic plan and goals. As a purchaser of healthcare services rather than a direct provider of those services, the District appropriately leaves medical decisions concerning the effectiveness and necessity of any particular treatment modality to medical professionals and their patients.

Upon receipt of your letter I contacted Seton Shoal Creek Hospital to inquire about this issue. They assured me that they are taking your concerns seriously and are reviewing the use of electroshock therapy at the hospital. We believe that your interface with Shoal Creek Hospital is the appropriate place to address this concern, as they have the medical expertise necessary to review any information you provide and to make a decision concerning this particular treatment modality.

Thank you again for bringing this matter to the District's attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Young Brown".

Patricia A. Young Brown, CPA
President and CEO

cc: Texas State Representative Elliott Naishtat
Texas State Representative Eddie Rodriguez
Travis County Hospital District Board of Managers
Paul Whitelock, M.D., Medical Director, Seton Shoal Creek Hospital