

3-3-06 conversation with Michael Regier, VP legal affairs, Seton Network

Michael Regier called me back on behalf of Sister Helen Brewer, and I thanked him for taking the time to talk with me just before he caught a plane to go on vacation. He had read our initial letter and was aware of our meeting with Dr. Whitelock. He reiterated that Dr. Whitelock was reviewing the materials we shared with him, and was going to discuss the ECT issue with his medical staff. He affirmed my understanding that the natural tendency of the Board was to defer to medical management re treatment decisions and practices, with a reluctance to override them on these practices. I explained to him that the bottom line was that since ECT always causes brain damage and hurts people way more than it helps, the Board needs to understand that this is an ethics issue and a community care issue. I explained that we really want Seton Shoal Creek to use the safer, gentler, more effective methods of care for people in psychological distress, and that we were always available for further talk. I told him that we intend to draw public attention to the use of ECT at Shoal Creek. He said he would communicate our conversation to Sister Brewer before he left town.