



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education
Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12 Education
Banking and Insurance
Education
Environmental Preservation and Conservation

SENATOR GARY M. FARMER, JR.

34th District

September 14, 2017

Re: Rehabilitation Facility of Hollywood Hills/Larkin Community Hospital

Governor Scott,

It is with great concern and not without considerable deliberation that we write to you to request that you direct the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (hereinafter, FDLE) to open a formal investigation into what appears to be the unnecessary and possibly criminal loss of eight elderly lives entrusted to the care of the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills. It is our understanding that the facility is owned by Dr. Jack Michel and part of the Larkin Healthcare System.

We request that the FDLE take over the investigation of these deaths. We make this request in recognition of the numerous and various parties that will be included in such an investigation – including, but not limited to, private entities involved in the ownership, operation and management and operation of this facility, as well as the numerous state or local governmental agencies that may have jurisdictional responsibility or involvement in the oversight of said entities or the response to this horrific event. We believe the FDLE is best equipped to perform the broader investigation and provide assurance to the community that a full, complete and impartial investigation into potential criminal liability is conducted. Based on all of the early information provided to us by the Hollywood Police Department, Hollywood Fire Rescue, and medical information provided, there certainly appears to have been an avoidable loss of these elderly citizens of our community.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention and response to this request.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Gary M. Farmer, Jr.

Senator Gary M. Farmer, Jr.

Handwritten signature of Lauren Book.

Senator Lauren Book

Handwritten signature of Shevrin Jones.

Representative Shevrin Jones

REPLY TO:

- Broward College Campus, 111 East Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 913, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 (954) 467-4227
- 216 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5034

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

JOE NEGRON
President of the Senate

ANITERE FLORES
President Pro Tempore