

>>> "Pat Benabe" [REDACTED] 3/29/2007 3:06 PM >>>

Dear Ms. Merritt:

It was suggested that I contact your agency to **ask for a court appointed assistant**. I have attached a letter I sent this morning to [REDACTED], Director of Lutheran Services, Sarasota, Florida.

The unwillingness of this agency to speak to me concerning my mother has been going on for almost a year now. It is difficult for me to confront this issue alone since I live in Kansas and I am also a senior citizen with a fixed income which prohibits me from retaining an attorney and travel.

What is being done to my mother is not "guardianship" in any stretch of the imagination. Lutheran Services has taken a family situation and criminalized it without hearing evidence to the contrary.

They took total control of a woman's life who did nothing but have a stroke. I believe the attached letter will explain some of my immediate concerns. I hope that your agency will be able to provide me some assistance in resolving this horrible situation.

I have documentation and witnesses who can give testimony regarding the alleged charges against my daughter. In the meantime, my mother is languishing by the phone going deeper into depression with no avenues of redress available to her.

The article that appeared in the Sarasota newspaper is pasted below. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I can be reached at 785-840-9942

Sincerely,
Pat Benabe

Dear Ms. Benabe:

Thank you for writing to the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. We have received your message and it has been forwarded to the appropriate staff member for action. You can expect to receive contact from us within the next ten business days. If we can be of further service to you, please do not hesitate to contact us again.

[REDACTED], Ph.D.
Secretary