



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΕΛΕΓΧΟΥ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ
ΤΩΝ ΔΙΚΑΙΩΜΑΤΩΝ ΤΩΝ ΑΤΟΜΩΝ ΜΕ
ΨΥΧΙΚΕΣ ΔΙΑΤΑΡΑΧΕΣ

Αθήνα, 08 / 05 /2014

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ΠΡΟΣ: Δ/νση Ψυχικής Υγείας

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Θέμα: Συνάντηση της Ειδικής Επιτροπής με Καναδούς Αξιωματικούς της Αστυνομίας.

Σας διαβιβάζουμε τις απόψεις που διέτύπωσε η Ειδική Επιτροπή στα ερωτήματα για τα οποία την επισκέφθηκε ομάδα αξιωματικών της Καναδικής Αστυνομίας, η οποία διεξάγει διεθνή έρευνα εκ μέρους του Institute for Strategic and International Studies.

ΕΣΩΤΕΡΙΚΗ ΔΙΑΝΟΜΗ

1. Γραφείο Υπουργού Υγείας
2. Γραφείο Υφυπουργού Υγείας
3. Γραφείο Γεν. Γραμματέα Υγείας
4. Αυτοτελή Υπηρεσία Προστασίας
Δικαιωμάτων Ασθενών

Για την Ειδική επιτροπή
Ο Πρόεδρος

Βλάσης Τομαράς



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Athens, 11 / 04 /2014

NATIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE
FOR MONITORING THE PROTECTION OF
THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS
WITH MENTAL DISORDERS

PRESIDENT: VLASSIS TOMARAS, M.D.,
Ex Prof. of Psychiatry, Univ. of Athens

To the attention of the Four Senior Police
Officers of Canada – research program

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- Concerning the relationship of police and mental health services, the Greek police is involved mainly in cases coming under the procedure of involuntary hospitalization . According to the Greek legislation, the judge (public prosecutor), based in substantiated data, gives the order for involuntary psychiatric examination. In case that a candidate for psychiatric hospitalization refuses his exam, the local police station undertakes the task , by the prosecutor' s command, to bring him to the psychiatric establishment on duty for assessment. Two psychiatrists have to agree there upon the necessity of compulsory treatment and their judgment is attested by the prosecutor. Then the policemen accompany the disturbed person to the mental hospital or the psychiatric department of a general hospital where hospitalization has to take place.

- During the year 2013 the majority of psychiatric hospitalizations consisted of involuntary cases and readmissions exceeded first admissions (i.e., the «revolving door», phenomenon has afflicted the inpatient care system).

Recommendations waiting to be forwarded

- Systematic training of police officers and policemen involved in the procedure of involuntary examination / hospitalization (starting with a pilot program) on how to behave to mentally disturbed persons, avoid violence, handcuffs, etc.

- Measures reducing the presence of police, e.g., use of ambulances instead of police cars, a person waiting the ship to be brought from an island should not stay overnight at the local police station but at the nearest hospital or health center, etc.

- Restructuring the community mental health services (mostly community mental health centers): they should work round – the- clock, be available for home visits, early interventions, regular follow – up of hospitalized patients, in other words adhere to the principles of community psychiatry. Restructured community and community based services could become an effective filter to hospitalizations and rehospitalizations .

THE PRESIDENT

VLASSIS TOMARAS M.D.