

COMMENTS FROM READERS ON ARTICLES REGARDING SAFETY CONDITIONS AT OCFS JUVENILE DETENTION CENTERS AND GROUP HOMES

HEADLINE: DOJ REPORT

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/515304.html>

justice

09-02-09 8:12 PM I was a former staff at cass part of the problem at cass was lack of training I was never sent back to Parker to finish my training because Doug Cannister and Pace thought it was a waste of time quote! My radio didn't work so I could call for help, the inter-com got unplugged, Central office had prior knowledge of cass being out of control letters were sent to kevin mahr and others prior to my kidnapping, what about the big wigs that came in and had us put labels on all drawers etc. so the residents knew where things were kept. What about the director never having the locks changed they were sitting in the maintance for months, what about documentation that was changed so the reports always came out perfect central office knew about this to all they did was give the yda that did it two weeks paid leave for being the directors goldboy!

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lakeres

09-02-09 8:25 AM The state government needs someone to blame, other than themselves, for the mess it's in. So, they blame the staff, knowing that most won't speak up for fear of reprisal. In this economy, few can take a chance of losing their job no matter how unsafe it may be. I hope that some former employees will begin to tell their stories of lack of training, lack of support, forced overtime due to intentional understaffing and their own fear. And, where's the union speaking on the behalf of the employees?

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justice

09-01-09 8:13 PM All you yda's need to set the record straight go to the newspapers and blow the top off of this thing. It certainly does look like you're being set up! It seems nobody cares that staff are getting hurt everyday in these facilities, murdered, beaten, raped & kidnapped!

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lakeres

09-01-09 11:47 AM Sadly, this problem has been with us many years; it spans all political parties. Seems no one party can find workable solutions

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ignoredissue

08-31-09 11:44 PM Just stop with all the he said she said hear say about Tryon and all other

justice

[»Report Abuse](#) facilities. If it's not truth and factual there is no room for it. I have worked this job for a long time and this is the worse it's been and I honestly believe it is intentional and we have been being set up for complete failure for a long time to meet the agenda of closing facilities. The staff and mid level management really have no control over program schedule or activities for residents. Pico Train(my guess for attentionyet) Carrion is very responsible for the creation of this beast in every facility she oversees.

Zaltan

08-30-09 1:22 PM By the way, for everyones information, resident Dodge assaulted 2 more staff last night. But remember, these are only kids, and it's o.k. for them to assault people. Give me a break...
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TiredOfTax

08-30-09 8:31 AM The key word in the above article is "delinquents" employees should, no must be able to do what is needed to keep themselves and others safe from these violent individuals. We should not handcuff the people in charge of the inmates or prosecute them for doing their jobs. Lets remember who they are and why they are there to begin with. NOBODY can control them, no one!
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<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/515175.html>

Czerka

08-29-09 10:31 AM The Commissioner "welcomes the DOJ report" findings stating that she "inherited" these problems from the prior administration. To keep residents and staff safe there will always be a need to restrain this type clientele in some instances. To effectively run program staff must have control. Carrion will not last past one term, and for the sake of pandering to those downstate who she depends on to enrich her career after she leaves OCFS she is running OCFS into the ground. Residents cannot be rehabilitated in an atmosphere where other residents are allowed to abuse the staff working to help them. Example, several residents at Industry who a few months ago came up with the plan to urinate and have bowl movements in their hands and rub it in the faces of staff because they believe the staff cannot do anything about it.
[»Report Abuse](#)

Zaltan

08-29-09 9:46 AM I have many friends in all lines of law enforcement and they all say the same thing, "If I had 19 years on the job and I was told that I had to do my last year before retirement at Tryon to retire, I would walk away without my pension." "I don't see how you guys do." All the people out there with all these opinions should work 1 40 hour week in the staffs shoes before you are quick to blame the staff. I will bet 1 years salary that there are not very many capable of doing that. Remember, the outsiders only see in the media, what the agency wants you to see.
[»Report Abuse](#)

justice

Czerka

08-30-09 6:58 PM I have not exaggerated a thing everything is true, OCFS csea pef are all failures!
[»Report Abuse](#)

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[»Report Abuse](#)

Zaltan

08-29-09 9:39 AM First of all what would you do if I punched you in the face several times, then spit not only in your face several times but in your mouth? You don't know until it happens to you. Remember, some of these residents come into the facility with the HIV virus, TB, Aids and many other diseases and because of confidentiality the staff are not provided that information. How many times does anyone have to get spit in their mouth before they go into survival mode? Let me spit in any of your mouths and see what you do. I believe it's everyone's constitutional right to defend themselves. I don't think the government has taken that right from us yet....
[»Report Abuse](#)

ignoredissue

08-29-09 8:58 AM again you just refuse to except the truth and accuse another with actual real exposure to this environment as stating lies. Just to be clear there is no fabrication in Justice's post or mine. I have seen a staff hit in the head by a resident with a pipe sliced wide open and blood all over the place he never came back, I have seen a staff after being punched around 15 times and kicked in the face with blood just pouring out his nose and mouth, I was jumped by 4 residents at once, a staff was hit over the head with a board by a resident and died shortly after from stroke, a staff was just murdered near buffalo by two residents throwing a blanket over her head from behind and beating her to death with a object, female kitchen staff was kidnapped at knife point held hostage for hours and raped, a staff was stabbed in the neck by a resident with a pen. The list goes on and on and it would be a blessing if they were exaggeration and fabrication but they are not.
[»Report Abuse](#)

ignoredissue

08-28-09 10:45 AM [»Report Abuse](#) This goes on for hours with staff, administrators, psychologist attempting to deescalate the resident, and of course nothing works calm the situation because it is usually being done just for fun and the entertainment of it until that last resort comes and a restraint is performed. I know no one believes it but staff are not quick to restrain, they are afraid to perform restraints because they are followed up with child abuse allegations and investigations. The residents will do all that is stated above and there is zero accountability or consequences for it, so the cancer spreads to more residents doing it and doing it more often. The staff are always wrong no matter what they do, they are always blamed for the crisis starting and the way it was dealt with. The residents just continue on in regular program without having to take ownership for their behavior or any type of consequence for assaulting staff. This is just the very tip top of the iceberg and there is no way for you to und

CaringResident

08-26-09 12:05 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Let me just start by saying, I have parent that works at Tryon- and I worry about her health and well being EVERYDAY that she is there. These kids may have grown up with sad backgrounds, come from broken homes, or been abused themselves... But that does NOT give them the right to abuse others. Especially those that get paid to "babysit" these kids. These employees make less a year than school teachers. Look what they have to deal with. Being abused, beaten, mental and physical abuse. If school teachers had to deal with this...there would be NO more public education. There are many many other children that come from broken and abusive homes and they aren't out there stabbing, killing, breaking and entering or assaulting others, JUST FOR FUN. I seriously suggest the ones making comments about how the employees gloat over their money should have to work a day in these honorable peoples shoes. All these kids care about is hurting others- and getting enjoyment out of it.

Ashley

08-25-09 10:54 PM [»Report Abuse](#) By the way, I now of a staff member that has been there more than 15 years. He gets a false charge of abuse against him. It is unfounded, the kid even admits making it up, yet is will stay on this staff members record for 10 years. Where is the justice in that????

hailey

08-25-09 8:35 PM [»Report Abuse](#) The report states that "the number and severity of injuries from restraints is made worse by poorly executed or intentionally harmful restraints". Let me just that in my 14 years of seasonal employment, I have seen several residents intentionally hurt themselves during a restraint so they could file charges on staff. These "residents" are constantly setting the staff up. I watched a resident recently who was restrained during a fight. This resident rubbed his face back and forth on the floor to create rub marks and the staff in question was brought up on charges. I think some people need to wake up and realize what is really happening in these facilities. I think Gladys Carrion has an agenda which sadly, is wreaking havoc in our facilities. Let me also mention that these facilities are not equipped to handle the large number of mental health cases they are being bombarded with.

beccamay70

Czerka

08-25-09 7:52 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Here we go again....another politician has read a report about Tryon and wants to make sure the "children" are not abused. I have news for those of you who have never been inside the locked gates of Tryon, they are not children by the time they arrive at Tryon, many of them are career criminals, and the only people being abused are the staff that deal with these "throw-away" individuals that NON-tax paying adults can't parent. I have worked in this environment (seasonally) for 4 years and the degree to which these residents have declined is horrifying. Staff have no recourse, are left open to serious injury and deal with ridiculous policy on a daily basis. It is ludicrous! Until some common sense, non-liberal policy is passed, the "tail will continue to wag the dog" and people will continue to get hurt. And if all else fails.. "Mr. John Q. Public" can take comfort in knowing these "children" have a lawyer on call 24/7 and tax payers

InnocentParty

08-25-09 3:23 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Quote from Attentionyet: "Stop blaming children....it makes me sick."

Really? It makes you sick? Tell me, how sick will you be when one of these "children" murders, rapes, robs, mames one of YOUR family members?

Another quote: "You need to realize the level of trauma these youth have been exposed..."

Good, I know some kids who were exposed to quite a bit of trauma. How about I bring them by your house and let them urinate all over your lawn, hurt your cat, steal from you and whatever else they feel like doing? After all, they are traumatized children...why not, eh?

ignoredissue

08-25-09 2:23 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Please do not say that the staff received training. 3 of those 5 weeks we had zero training, nothing scheduled or no trainers. 90% of the training we did do was just our regular required annual refresher training. Nothing new and improved to help the staff work with and deal with the type of residents we are sent. This was just another way to make it look like the staff received all kinds of "new training". This is a joke, we are not working in a public school or day care here. These residents only care about gang related status, violence and creating chaos. The more people they physically hurt the more they enjoy it.

Hangthemhigh49

08-25-09 12:49 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I have been at Tryon on several occasions. These boys and girls are not from this area but NYC. They are there because most of them have committed a crime, are under aged and have no other place to go but back to the streets. My impression back several years ago, "you could not pay me enough to work there". Senator Farley is correct, that the report does not explain is why 1/3 of the work force is on work related compensations. How many staff members have been faced with criminal charges because of false accusations by some of the parents waiting on the side lines? Thank god we have some one willing to work there so that the rest of us on the outside feel safer.

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/508131.html>

Tryon aides involved in boy's death to be fired

butterfly1

12-11-08 11:05 AM [»Report Abuse](#) sonel22- Next time 'they won't let the grievance slips pass'?? Why did this youth have a grievance against these two YDA's?? What was the grievance? Let me guess....."I am upset that I am not allowed to punch YDA's in the face, throw chairs at them and I am also upset that I am restrained from harming people" hmmm, yeah they definitely should have been on top of that grievance, can't believe they missed it. How many years ago were you there? How many staff were assaulted on a daily bases? How many times did the YDA's restrain a child when that child was slamming chairs to your head or spitting blood in your face? These YDA's don't restrain just to protect themselves MOST restraints is due to protecting the life of the 'other' child. THEN for a thank you for saving the other child they are investigated and depending on their position of the food chain there they either keep their job or not. All for doing their job.

FireKatt

12-11-08 2:05 PM [»Report Abuse](#) This is such a shame. These men were only doing thier job the best they could...and protecting their own lives. They are being used as an example. Two good men without a job. This is appalling beyond words.

ignoredissue

12-11-08 9:15 AM [»Report Abuse](#) "The grand jury process indicated there was "no criminal matter" to be considered" - so why has OCFS continued to label and treat these two men as if they are guilty of something?

"When Murphy returned to work from November to December 2007, he was called a "killer" by Tryon residents." - OCFS forgets or doesn't except that they also have a responsibility to it's staff, who(administrator) informed those residents when he returned to work that he was involved in an incident where a youth died and why wasn't he/SHE held accountable for destroying this mans future when he attempted to return to work?

dogman12

12-10-08 9:37 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I live next to Tryon and sad to see a kid lost his life but why was he there ? Maybe he was a out of control kid like most there ? When Tryon didn't have a fence the kids walked off alot and broke into homes , stole vehicles ,even tied up neighbors and shot the house up and stole the car ! I remember when Mike Tyson was there - we all know that man !! The girls are worse I here - Like I said sad a young person lost his life , I just hope that these kids change for the better not worse like Tyson !!If these guys now at thier age have to find a job it will be tough . Try to control a out of control kid you will then know what they were and still are going through !

beenthere2

12-10-08 7:43 PM sonel22: Apparently you haven't been reading the paper and/or can't comprehend. These guys were found innocent of any wrong doing. Not that

butterfly1

[»Report Abuse](#) the state did their best to make these two guys the scapegoat to cover their own butts. Bottom line the state did not inform staff of the residents medical condition and although it was mandated, they did not have an AED on site. Instead of making ridiculous statements and going after two innocent people why don't you address those really responsible for this death. An AED could have possibly saved the residents life but there was none also, had the resident not assaulted a staff he would not have been restrained and the whole incident would have never happened.

No matter what business you are in, there will always be bad employees...you are being totally unfair to the YDA's who genuinely care about the kids they supervise and there are a lot of them!!

WatchDog

12-10-08 3:02 PM There are a lot of excellent YDA's at Tryon including these two who are going to pay for the agencies failure to communicate the youths medical information and have the proper life saving equipment on the facility (AED).
[»Report Abuse](#)

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/507510.html>

RESIDENT INJURIES HIGHEST AT TRYON

butterfly1

11-20-08 6:54 AM Needkindness - I personally can tell you I have NEVER disrespected any youth, but yet have been assaulted approximately 4 times within this past year. A stern look of disapproval did nothing for the 'child' as they punched me in the face. If by disrespecting you mean we can not tell them NO then by your standards I did disrespect this 'child'. If by disrespecting you mean stopping a fight in progress and being attacked by another youth for stopping it then yes, I also disrespected that youth. We are not animals injuring these 'children' everyday. We are hard working people who have children of our own. We struggle everyday to stop the unhealthy behaviours of these youth and are criticized in the papers for doing it.
[»Report Abuse](#)

Concerned4Kids

11-18-08 9:51 AM Gladys Carrion has created this environment by hiring at least 10 new attorney's (Ombudsman's) and opened up a direct line to complain whenever a resident feels like it. The Ombudsman's office then sends an email of concern to the facility administration which forces them to move away from the custody and security mind set that Gladys does not want. Ultimately the residents have figured out that if they do not like a policy or a particular staff, the only need to call the Ombudsman's Office and they won the game. What Gladys stripped away was the underlining authority of some very professional, dedicated staff. Increased 'abuse' numbers are exactly what Gladys wants to prove her case so that she can justify closures to her home town buddy David Paterson. In 25 years I have never seen a Commissioner who has done more to abuse the children we are supposed to be teaching and helping than Gladys's. Also look at the high level appointments she makes, a clear racial

butterfly1

theme.

butterfly1

11-17-08 8:56 AM [»Report Abuse](#) Discobulous - This THING as you call it affects everyone. From the YDA who invested 10 - 20 years working with children to the communities who will have to fear for their lives and the lives of their children when these "children" are placed back into society. These SOB's are hardworking people who are trying to defend themselves from the lies and misleading information given by the State. I'm sure if you went to work everyday and were physically and verbally assaulted only to have the blame placed on you as an employee you would have a few SOB's of your own. You obviously are ignorant as to what these facilities are like right now under Carrion. Why don't you get punched in the face, spat on and have a chair hurled at your head, THEN come on here and tell us about SOB stories.

kristina

11-16-08 9:53 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Come on people Lets remember what kind of "kids" they are. I would like to see some of these people DEAL with this kids for one week.

cantfixstupid

11-16-08 7:23 PM [»Report Abuse](#) All that these clinicians are doing is giving thesed kids excuses that they will try to use there whole life whenever they dont get there way or they get into trouble. They load them up on there meds which is supposed to control there anger or what-not and we are not able to deal with the real behavior issue...do you really think that once they go home and get off of aftercare they will continue with the meds. It's just an excuse they can use ohhh im adhd im this im that i shouldnt be held accountable for my actions. We need to be a boot camp/corrections model for things to change

cantfixstupid

11-16-08 7:18 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Thats right these residents are not being held accountable for anything and add on top of that the Psychs we have now that cater to and baby the residents and just give them excuses because they are "traumatized kids" well what about the victims of there crimes you dont think that they are traumatized. Maybe the victims of there crimes would like to see these kids getting pizza parties and cookies and ice cream or extra phone calls just because he decided to "turn it up" because he knows then he will get whatever he wants. Also do these psychs or home office or the Ombudsman forget that maybe some of the staff are traumatized as well. You dont know what staff went through as a child

samiam

11-16-08 6:54 PM [»Report Abuse](#) The "Sanctuary" model is ineffective for this reason only: It creates a confrontation between youth and staff. The model encourages staff to work with each resident as an individual, which is not bad until the staff have to impose a consequence to a negative behavior. The rules are to be bent and made flexible to adjust to each residents emotional response. However this only causes a confrontation between staff and resident, because the rules are no longer consistent and/or applicable to all. How do you provide a structured environment and adhere to a formatted schedule when the resident decipher

butterfly1

the program? Multiply this by 15 to 20 residents.

samiam

11-16-08 6:42 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Immediately following a restraint, you are supposed to allow a time to de-escalate the emotions of the resident and then successfully counsel the youth. I have witnessed administrators - Strauser, Hoeg and Kelso - speak to the child while they are emotionally charged and take an abuse charge. Eventhough the resident is only angry at staff for enforcing a programmatic procedure, they have been given a tool to get even with the staff. It has worked in the past, as a way for a child to move a certain staff person off of their unit. Who is in charge here? Home office, the ombudsman, and administration is encouraging an US vs THEM philosophy.

samiam

11-16-08 6:32 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Are they KIDDING? OCFS is making it sound like Tryon staff are nothing but Child Abusers!! The residents are more volatile and aggressive than in the past. Staff implement the physical restraint the way they have been trained, for the safety and security of the facility. However the high number of cases of abuse come from the Ombudsman and administrators encouraging the aggressive resident to claim it, despite no abuse occuring. I have witnessed this.

sassie

11-16-08 11:51 AM [»Report Abuse](#) working at tryon for several years,the paper doesnt tell of the assaults,spitting on urine thrown on verbal abuse etc.,that goes on at tryon,maybe mr.anich should put on a uniform and work the floor and see the real deal

justplainsick

11-16-08 10:13 AM [»Report Abuse](#) I agree, what I do not understand is when DOJ comes in then why are you following what ADM says and keep the kids away from them. Not letting the DOJ see what is really going on is not helping. If in fact, Adm is really not doing their jobs why make them look like they are. Let DOJ see the real children in action, don't hide them make sure that they are out in very plane view. I also realize that this report is null and void. If you really want to know information you need to have it current and accurate. You need to take only the info that deals directly with WC and leave the rest of the baggage home. It is non-productive. Plus statistics are only as good as the data collected. There is a margin of percentage loss for incorrect numbers, any idiot knows that.

cantfixstupid

11-16-08 9:48 AM [»Report Abuse](#) Instead of letting us actually do our job and deal with behaviors we have admin, home office, the ombudsman all telling these "children" the exact opposite of what staff are telling them. If staff continue to do the job like they know it has to be done we are reprimanded by admin or called into the child abuse hotline. All for doing a job that 95 percent of the people telling us how to do our job would'nt be able to handle for an hour on there own without one of us "abusers" to bail them out and save them

cantfixstupid

butterfly1

11-16-08 9:41 AM [»Report Abuse](#) Sooo the Sanctuary model is working well huh...We have not even had the training for Sanctuary we were told friday that they training we went threw in march and the whole 3 hours we had this time was an overview. How do they expect us to embrace a new model without proper training. As far as we have seen sanctuary is no restraints and pretty much give your keys to the kids cause they run the place

justplainsick

11-16-08 9:24 AM [»Report Abuse](#) Absolutely right! If a resident says that they were abused, it is reported into the State Central Registry and an investigation is started. If it is found to be true, I believe that the staff are terminated. If it is not true, and the finding is unfounded, it stays with the employee for 10 years. Then it is removed. It is sad that this can follow an employee over to any other job they may go and find. Ex.: in todays world everything is checked on so say a female YDA left with an unfounded against her and say went to work at Lexington. The background check would come back positive if they check through the Registry. Even though it is unfounded she would show what is called a "Positive Hit". Real fair isn't it.

DupingTaxpayers

11-16-08 1:34 AM [»Report Abuse](#) "Borges said a new approach to working with residents - the "sanctuary" model - is a more therapeutic approach and is working well." Yeah, it's working so well the number of residents physically and verbally abusing the staff at several facilities is higher than at any other time in the history of the agency.

State creates task force to transform juvenile system

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505584.html>

epup

11-06-08 9:44 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I guess I don't understand why Ms.Carrion feels because they are "children" they are not capable of committing a crime. I wish all the people hurt by these children would speak out. The guns they carry still kill, it doesn't take the adult hand to shoot. The sexual attacks are as real as if any grown up did it. They are not locked up because someone has a vendetta against these youths, but still we want to keep them in the same neighborhoods, with the same families that in one way or another supported the need for violence. OCFS should be ashamed of themselves for supporting coverups, and supporting the side of violence by not supporting the state employees doing their jobs. Justice I hope you get justice but we all know the law isn't always just. Where are all the bloggers?

guphieup

10-26-08 5:24 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I cannot stress how important it is for everyone to report any abuse from residents when it happens. It is not a given that when we decide to do these jobs we will expect to be hurt. We deserve to have a safe work place without fear of incidents that might end our careers. Even the verbal abuse is

epup

reportable and should be done. Ms. Carrion has taken away the right to a safe work area by giving the residents so much power. Please do not just ignore the fact you are being verbally and physically abused, let your supervisors know and your union leaders.

birdie

10-26-08 6:18 AM [»Report Abuse](#) The commissioner wants these youth to be treated in community based programs. Ok, who is going to run them, and at what pay? Where does the money come from to operate these plans? What will the direct care staff do when these youth curse them out, make disrespectful remarks towards them and their family members, threaten them, spit on them, and simply become non-compliant to any type of authority? You may as well just send them back to their homes, as this is exactly what they have done at home. Ask their parents and family members. How much longer will grandma be able to deal with them? If you are trying to make OCFS facilities fail, I can only imagine what these community based programs will be like? Is there any agenda as to what community based program will pretend to be? This is simply an unrealistic plan by this administration.

RobertG

10-24-08 9:02 AM [»Report Abuse](#) Thanks to Carrion and her cronies many of the facilities @ OCFS continue with more of the same. The kids continue to be in charge and the ombudsmen continue to defend the youth and question the staff. Discipline is not a bad word. I continue to wonder if this is not a grand plan of Carrion to get residential facilities out of control so she can validate closing them all down. Could Carrion and her advisors really be that far removed from how these can be really helped?

guphiempup

10-17-08 12:08 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I do not work at Tryon but support the need to get sanity back in our facilities. Yesterday I watched a resident, in the face of a YDA challenging him to "turn it up, what do you think you are going to do? The ombudsman only believes us, so you can't do anything" I definitely would not take that from my children why then am I asked to accept that behavior from a person who needs structure and guidelines. Somehow the consequences absolutely do not meet the choices. We are teaching these children nothing except it is ok to treat people badly, rob, harass, abuse and someone will be there to make it all right for you after all you are only a "child". I think it is a slap in the face to the Tryon staff to "retrain" them, maybe some constructive changes and ideas but these are people who have been doing an excellent job for many years. Just another way of saying you are worthless from our commissioner and her staff.

birdie

10-15-08 7:45 AM [»Report Abuse](#) It looks like Tryon will begin its training next week. These are seasoned staff and should not need the training. They know what to do and how to do it. Will this administration provide the same training to other staff at other facilities, or is this just a way for them to say "Look what we did, we trained their staff, now if something happens it's on them" Sounds pretty fishy to me?

HelpUsGovernor

10-03-08 7:58 PM I think in between tragedies the blogging calms down a bit. Unfortunately, I'm sure some new horror will occur to residents and/or staff at DJJOY facilities compliments of the inept Gladys Carrion and the blogs will heat up again. I'm thinking of starting a pool on how long the new facility director at Tryon will last before he fumbles the ball and is "shuffled off" to yet another new assignment.
[»Report Abuse](#)

RobertG

10-03-08 12:25 PM Sorry about that the link does not work on this blog. Go to dailynews**** and look up the story: Teen in Shannon Braithwaite Brooklyn stabbing horror called troubled There is a comment on OCFS under that in the blog.
[»Report Abuse](#)

RobertG

10-03-08 12:23 PM Hey - check this out
[»Report Abuse](#)

*****nydailynews*****/news/ny_crime/2008/10/02/2008-10-02_teen_in_shannon_braithwaite_brooklyn_sta-2.html#community

You guys should make some noise over @ the Daily News. This is such a tragic story. Someone has made a post about OCFS.

Gerry1

10-03-08 6:08 AM Sawgunner-- the article that you're talking about is only the tip of the iceberg. Upstate New York communities are getting more danderous as well. There was a kid in an upstate facility who viciously assaulted another youth seriously smashing the youth's nose. Efforts were made to keep the youth at the facility for an extended period of time. The facility was told by the powers that be that the kid needed to be released to the community after one month. That same kid stole a car shortly thereafter and was then told by our home office that he couldn't be revoked!!! The same kid caused a problem within his home school with the police being called and still no revocation. Is the community safer? People are catching on that communities are not as safe as they used to be under the new commissioner's watch. Unfortunately NYC streets aren't as safe as they used to be. Violent crime is up and the answer is to treat the kid within his/her home environment with programs such as MST
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sawgunner

10-02-08 7:32 PM NY Dailey News article.... "Cousin, 15, arrested in knifing murder of Brooklyn teen Shannon Braithwaite".... Check it out on the NY Dailey news website. Answer me this gladys - Where would you send this teenage murderer? A community program???
[»Report Abuse](#)

WatchDog

09-26-08 11:26 AM The following is from page 10 of the PEF September 2008 newsletter, The Communicator.
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PEF President Ken Brynien met with Carrion in August to again discuss increased violence and child abuse allegations.

epup

"Our concerns seem to be falling on deaf ears," Brynien said. "This commissioner is more focused on moving kids to community programs that already have failed too many kids. The immediate focus should be on creating a safe environment for the employees and youths."

RobertG

09-15-08 7:46 PM

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teebuzz = yeah gerry was a day off - his mistake. I just want to say the commissioner & cronies are the ones that sensationalize things. I am sorry you do not see it. Perhaps you have to be an insider to see it. You have already stated you do not work for OCFS. For all of us that work in OCFS the propaganda put out by Ms. Carrion's office is very obvious. This woman is a real piece of work. I am completely put out that she considers the children of OCFS her children and she thinks the staff are useless. She is a horrible person who actually must think she is a worthy person who does good work, but is quite the opposite. Teebuzz - I don't think you will ever be able to comprehend what the kids & staff @ residential facilities are going through under the lame leadership of Ms. Carrion!

carrionmustgo

09-13-08 9:00 PM

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FYI ---In reading a friend's recent issue of the PEF Communicator it noted that PEF has produced a Know Your Rights Handbook for members working in OCFS facilities who are assaulted or accused of child abuse. It should now be available at every OCFS facility. Ask someone in PEF for a copy. A disheartening but not surprising statement was made in the article by PEF President Ken Brynien. He met with Carrion in August to address increase in violence against employees and child abuse allegations " Our concerns appear to be falling on deaf ears. This commissioner is more focused on moving kids to community programs that have already failed too many kids" It's hard to feel appreciated by the commissioner when it appears that our safety is not a high priority.

fedupwithit

09-13-08 9:18 AM

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I agree with Robert G. The gov never should have allowed the Commiss. to head this taskforce...how biased!!! An independent firm should do the work-since OCFS staff are incompetent??? Let's face it, just a waste of more tax payers dollars.

Family wants second autopsy – Charles Lofty – Tryon YDA

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505392.html>

ChildMadness

06-15-09 6:56 PM

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Who is going to take the blame for this?

18-year-old Anthony Allen and 17-year-old Robert Thousand have been charged with murder, robbery and burglary. They are accused of killing 24-year-old Renee Greco who was working at the Wyndham Lawn for Children in

ChildMadness

Lockport. New York State Office of Children and Family Services which licenses Avenue House and other youth facilities is launching an investigation of Monday night's tragedy and has suspended its license to operate, effective immediately.

ChildMadness

09-09-08 8:06 PM My facility happens to be one of the ones with a couple of therapists who were hired for their expertise in being able to identify behaviors and to assist the staff with working more effectively with the residents (sanctuary). The therapists are just as bad as the ombudspersons in that they believe everything the residents say, and that the staff is not helping the residents get better. I am tired of being approached by administrative staff with accusations of inappropriate interactions that set the residents off. And who do you think told the administrators who said what? No one asked me anything! In fact, the resident verbally abused me so I left him alone. I didn't have any interaction with the resident except for giving him a directive and his cursing me out. He refused to comply with any directive from any staff for the next 6 hours. However, he would speak with the therapist, who he told that I had verbally abused him. Now it seems that I need a lawyer. Gladys should invite him

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Jr88fanNY

09-08-08 1:40 PM teebzz - have you ever worked a job where you know that going into work might mean that you could be going off shift injured and to the hospital instead of going home safe and sound. I am not talking about the risk that we all take driving to and from work instead the violence in the work place. Worst yet have you ever gone into work with a thought going through your mind about never going home to your family again?

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I am not referring to a paper cut as a injury or choking to death on your cup of Joe from Dunkin Donuts or your salami sandwich. Instead I am talking about serious injuries caused by kids who have committed criminal acts serious acts not stealing a candy bar or urinating in the park.

Stop bashing these workers that are doing what you are NOT having to do every day they go to work. They need public support not public ridicule.

carrionmustgo

09-04-08 8:22 PM Carrion is a lawyer. It took her 3 days to respond to Mr. Loftly's death with any sort of acknowledgment. I guess it gave her time for all of her handlers to give her advice on how to respond. Funny that someone who heads up such a large human service agency lacks a timely human response. It's too bad that the only sort of human response and compassion is directed to her "children"

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MAFVI T

09-04-08 8:18 PM "Bill thought it was an important time of healing," Steele said. "We're moving forward positively." I just have to say Mr. Gettman I don't think anyone is moving on positively. This family is heartbroken over the loss of their loved one. Anyone who works for OCFS knows the injury to Mr. Loftly's head did in fact bring on his untimely death. All of this is because Former Gov. Spitzer gave Ms, Carrion a job as commissioner of OCFS. Ms. Carrion is unfit for this

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ChildMadness

position and everyone in OCFS knows this.

wanderer10

09-04-08 7:19 PM Getman and Burrell left so fast, they nearly ran from the church. Disgusting....
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sawgunner

09-04-08 6:39 PM What? Where was Gladys?? The leader of the pack didn't show up? Is that how she showed her "appreciation" for Mr. Loftly? She probably thought her pathetic 8/29/08 "Dear Valued OCFS Employee" letter would suffice instead of her presence at the funeral.
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DA: No new charges for Tryon resident

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505204.html>

sawgunner

09-10-08 9:02 AM Gerry1 - I fully agree with the community programs flunking. The MST study showed it and you can also just listen, from one of gladys' children's own mouth, how many community programs they have been placed in....But they didn't show up to which violated the judges order so they go back in front of the judge for the 3rd or 4th time (arrest, placed on probation, violation of probation and placed in community program, violation of community program and placement in facility) for their placement in facility. Now that is a waste of tax dollars. Some of these proceedings take up to 4-5 months. If they got placed in a facility at the start, they would almost be done the facility's program and on their way home. Instead they are wasting time and money with community program delinquencies and court cases. Gov. Paterson, do a study on that waste of money. It would be enormous.
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sawgunner

09-07-08 8:16 PM I don't know justice but at the facility I work at there has been a real increase in staff injuries from combative residents. Some serious (ie comp) and some not (ie scrapes etc) regardless, not one YDA or other staff member should at anytime be assaulted or injured by one of Gladys' "children"
[»Report Abuse](#)

justice

09-07-08 7:56 PM How many injuries has there been state wide since gladys took over.
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shesgot2go

09-05-08 9:57 PM Teebzz ~ if you don't think your blogs aren't nasty and sarcastic, then you need to go back and reread some of yours. Just on this page alone is at least

sawgunner

[»Report Abuse](#) three incidents. We don't proprot to know all the answers, we just know what WORKS and what doesn't and what she is doing isn't. We are not resistant to change, just give us something that works for both children and staff.

facts07

09-04-08 10:32 PM I agree with shesgot2go comments. Our agency has taken a turn in the wrong direction and everyone has felt this. From the residents to home office. I have talked to a lot of YDA's across the state and they have the same feelings. Hey Gladys why don't you wake up and pay attention to the people you are supposed to represent.

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howmuchmore

09-03-08 9:00 PM Now a staff is accused of child abuse and they can't work on the unit with the Resident who is claiming the abuse... And so it goes - round and round shifting staff from one place to another and mandating another staff to cover the units, it becomes a vicious circle. With no end in sight...

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If we had even some of our skills back, we would have less restraints and when we did have to restrain a Resident it wouldn't be after they were out of control.

ignoredissue

09-01-08 1:00 PM When Gonefor said when residents were held accountable for there behavior and they knew there would be some type of consequence for acting out when anyone said "chill" they did because they did not want to lose any privileges. Now today with Carrion's no accountability for one's behavior no matter what the count is they are always going to act out causing chaotic and unsafe environment, another reason to close facilities. So just go ahead and continue to pick apart and analyze what we are saying or you can try to actually understand.

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junior

08-30-08 10:46 PM Hey, I have a great idea!!!! How about Gladys and her staff come to Tryon and fill in Tuesday so that all of Charles friends and co-workers may attend his funeral. NEVER HAPPEN !!!!!. They came to Tryon so that staff could have sanctuary training and had the*****scared out of them. My thoughts and best wishes go out to Charles family.He will always be in our hearts.

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Gerry1

08-30-08 8:20 AM Good morning. As most of you will be enjoying the last full weekend of summer before the kids go back to school there are state employees mostly YDAs in OCFS facilities working long hours with mandated overtime due to staff injuries and others others out on stress due to unsafe environments due to the the failed policies of Gladys Carrion. These employees will invariably be facing verbal abuse or worse yet physical assault under fear of protecting themselves or doing what they know is right to maintain a safe environment for the other residents and themselves. The environment she has fostered is one of fear--- fear of doing one's job properly, fear of being called into the child abuse hotline, fear for the safety pf the residents and for themselves. Yes

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sawgunner

there are children in these facilities who have made mistakes and some appear to sincerely want to change and to learn new ways of coping and handling stress and anger and to get an education but the environment isn't conducive fo

Gerry1

08-30-08 8:30 AM continued for it. One must feel safe before one can relax and focus on learning. In my many years in facilities its sad when a youth confides that he doesn;t feel safe. Some didn't feel safe in their homes, their communities and now the facilities where they've been sent. This wasn't the way it used to be before Carrion. The number of restraints, youth and safe injuries have multiplied under her watch. There needs to be an investigation between the old administration and the current one. The comparisons will be glaring. Never in the history of OCFS has staff morale been lower. Good people go to work with good intentions of helping kids (yes that's why we got into the field) only to be told by our commissioner in the press of what a lousy job we're doing. She'll later threaten our livelihoods by stating that she'll rightsize facilities so she can keep offender in the community closer to their homes in expensive community programs that don't work (MST) She's making the
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oredissue

08-29-08 8:53 PM Watchdog your following comment is perfect, so I reposted it!
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"Carrion, Borgess, Burell and Getman I invite you to come put on a uniform and run the floor, please come show me what I have been doing wrong for so long. Please come and establish order and control, follow the entire daily schedule following all the guidelines we are required to. I guarantee all four of you together can not do what one staff does. If I'm wrong come show me without having staff support, without hand picking residents or unit because we get deployed all the time to other units and do not know the residents in that unit at all. Please come and allow you children to treat you the way you allow them to treat us. Please come and tell them No and have abuse accusations made against you and your name on the state child abuse registry. I beg you to come do our job following your policies and procedures without making exceptions for yourselves and really experience what we do everyday. Please come do this for us!

smithe

08-29-08 2:24 PM I hope Ms Carrion sleeps well tonight. We have staff at Tryon working the overnight shift with minimum coverage. Will they be as safe?
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WatchDog

08-29-08 12:20 PM "pre-shift briefing" that Burell speaks of is something staff have always done. This isn't something they just invented like she makes it sound as an improvement. It was brought up by labor and negotiated for in the new contract and won to pay staff overtime to conduct per shift briefings. Every time I read comments by Carrion, Borgess, Burell, Getman they are full of baloney and continue to blame the staff. The staff have and continue to do everything wrong. They actually know NOTHING about what staff do and how good they are at it.
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WatchDog

08-29-08 11:08 AM I completely agree residents need to be protected from abuse, neglect and maltreatment. This is wrongly enforced in OCFS facilities. The actual circumstances are not be investigated or taken into consideration they just call the hotline and a staffs livelihoods at stake. A staff defending himself/herself from violent assault who in the situation is unable to follow techniques exactly as on paper are called in. Resident is upset and doesn't like a staff because they are firm and hold them accountable for their behavior so they lie making false accusations on the staff and it's called in to the hotline. There is no support for the staff, they are assumed guilty of accusation and treated that way. When it is proven to be a false accusation the staff is still on state registry for 10 years and the resident is not held accountable for the false statement. The staff also need to be protected and they do not see that as important or necessary. We are just hung out to

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eclaimGville

08-29-08 11:00 AM Can you say COVER-UP!!!

[»Report Abuse](#)

smithe

08-29-08 10:45 AM Loftly worked doubles for years without headaches. He gets assaulted from behind, hit in the head no less then chronically complains of headaches, then has a stroke and dies. NOT CONNECTED to the assault?!?!?!?!?

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OCFS to scale back residents at Tryon

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505185.html>

tellthetruth

08-29-08 10:33 AM If the residents are out of control, why do the staff need more training? We already now if we are spit on to wipe it off and tell the "child" that this is inappropriate. If staff are threatened, to call for help and leave the area because the "child" is upset. Don't separate an upset "child" from the group, it's deemed "punitive". This is not a problem at just Tryon and Lansing, this is State wide. From the Commissiner on down, this is a group that wants to hear no dissenting opinions and seeks revenge for any criticism. The "professionals" stated years ago the benefits of schools without walls. Now all the walls are going back up to correct that dumnd idea. Everyone gets punished if you make a mistake, that is part of life. It's called growing and learning. The only exception is if you commit a crime and are sentenced by the Court to "Carrions' Club Med", I'm sorry, I forgot ot put esq. .

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Bronte415

08-28-08 7:27 PM God Bless all the men and women who endeavor to do a good job at Tryon--it appears you are working with your hands tied. I'm sorry and I hope no other employee is hurt or dies as a result.

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rocky1

tellthetruth

08-28-08 4:09 PM While reading these posts, I am getting a whole new perspective as to what your jobs with these kids entail. I do not envy any of you and as a matter of fact, I have now placed you on a pedestal. You all must be saints to do this job. First, let me thank you. Second, I agree that something needs to be done. I hate to think that anyone of you would or could be in a position where you might lose your job or lose you life while you are only trying to make it safer for yourselves, your fellow YDA members and the youths who are housed there. Is there anything any of us non employees can do to really help you and especially help to get the message out as to what and who is the real problem here? I will do whatever you ask, as long as it remains just under the law.

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junior

08-28-08 3:49 PM Mr Getmen are you that clueless? Tryon had 127 restraints in the month of july and 50 in the first week of august. The numbers of kids at tryon are the lowest in history and the restraints are the highest. Does this sound like things are going well lately to anyone? Please dont try to fool the public Mr Getman as we are not just a bunch of ***** idiots as some in albany believe.Thanks to the Leader Herald and these blogs, the public will stay informed of the real thruth.

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Tryon getting new leader

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505137.html>

jameslater1

12-29-08 4:23 PM hey for all the staff at tryon this is james slater and i was a resident there 3x and i thought it was out of controll while i was there and i know its not the staffs fault and i dont think i heard what happened to mr loftly but i knew him from elm1 and he was the funniest staff ive ever know and i loved him he was awsome but hwne i got there he told me how it was "YOU PLAY ,YOU STAY" lol and i know that that whole admin building wow it was a mess for 1 theres way to much micromanigment everyone is doing everyone eles jobs and you cant change up program on these kids who barely know how to read letalone understand what it takes and that they have to participate to have a smooth running program as i was saying you cant change up program every week like theyer ginny pigs and

and when i was there the last time in may o8 i saw that the kids thier were more incontroll then the staff

IluvTryon

08-26-08 11:07 PM This is a very sad day. My heart goes out to Mr. Loftly's family, friends and his coworkers. I didn't know Mr. Loftly as long as most staff, but I can say that he always had a smile on his face. He ALWAYS put a smile on his coworker's and youth's faces. He was a pretty special guy. I am an employee at Tryon and I am honored to work there. I am honored because I work with some pretty amazing individuals who give their heart and soul to Tryon and to the youth in Tryon. It is very frustrating to see what is happening at Tryon. It feels as if there is no hope even though we all want a safe, therapeutic environment FOR

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jameslater1

ALL. I have never seen an agency/facility that is so inconsistent on all levels. I have never seen so many non-qualified administrators than I have within this agency. Not one person I know comes to work wanting to hurt any of these youth.

advocate

08-26-08 10:37 PM

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my husband worked with Charles and is heartsick. I don't think that Ms. Carrion made this mess alone but it is my sincere hope that the new Director begins to repair the damage and that Ms. Carrion allows it. Obvious changes need to be made. Please Ms. Carrion don't say for one second that Charles passing may not be related to the incident. Just fix it, hold the kids accountable when it's appropriate, hold the staff accountable when it's appropriate but every time a staff puts his hands on a "child" your staff find them guilty of child abuse. We have young children and if this happens then it's a mess at home. YOUR staff are put on "the register" which prevents them from working elsewhere with kids, my husband would be unable to coach or go to school to work on his day off, come on let's really look at situations and not just take the easy way out and blame staff. Lets learn from the tragedy that occurred and ended this evening for CHARLES family.

left2thewolves

08-26-08 10:14 PM

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In response to JPS, I think all of our family members have the same worries. I have informed my family of what steps to take in the event that I am injured and cannot speak for myself. In reference to the comment about a child who has has died" (mattym) The child died of complications from a heart condition, not because he was in an unsafe environment! Get your facts straight. The staff were cleared of any criminal malice! Let me go on...Do you have any idea what the staff involved in that incident have been through? Do you know what their life have been like since? There lives are ruined!!!! Where do you get off!!!! Now we have lost another dear friend and coworker. Don't judge lest he be judged!

left2thewolves

08-26-08 9:56 PM

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So, today in the blotter, a resident was arrested at girls for assaulting yet another staff because she was given a directive which she did not agree with. Once again, residents not getting their way and reacting with violence. Is that staff now out as a result? I must also comment on the amount of staff that simply have just called it quits due to the deplorable conditions in which they have been working. I don't blame them a bit but will miss them. ...and still the mandates continue.

justplainsick

08-26-08 9:55 PM

[»Report Abuse](#)

For me I just pray that my husband who goes to work comes home safe everyday as well as any of the employees at that place.

I will however, keep all those who work at Tryon in my prayers that the good Lord keep you all safe, give you the strength that you need to go to work and do the best you can everyday and keep the community safe.

Amen!

justplainsick

08-26-08 9:41 PM

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New Leader, what was wrong with the old ones? I am married to a gentleman that works at Tryon. Yes, I know how he feels, what he thinks and we have had many serious talks, especially lately amongst all of this absolute garbage. First and foremost we have discussed if anything should seriously happen to him, he would not want any heroics and secondly get a good lawyer. Yes, sad as it is, now a day things have changed. The children are getting more violent, parents hands are tied, kind of damn if you do and dammed if you don't not like when our parents raised us. I have children and I would not tolerate what is going on at that facility. If you read from employees who work there what they are saying is the truth. They are afraid to talk, afraid to do their job for fear of being turned in for child abuse. Yes, that is right. If they restrain a youth wrong and the child says he did something wrong the YDA is turned into the State for child abuse, investigated it can stay for 10 y

mattym

08-26-08 7:01 PM

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Does anyone not find it ridiculous that a child has died and a staff is in critical condition from the unsafe environment @ Tryon. Ms. Carrion needs to get with the program and properly manage these programs. Other than call OCFS staff racists and voice her embarrassment, what has she done for OCFS. OCFS was not a shambles when Ms. Carrion took leadership but she is busy making a mess of things. The majority of OCFS have truly dedicated staff with good programs. Ms. Carrion chooses not to recognize this as she has her own agenda. Instead she has carefully chosen statistics and degrades the programs and their staff. It's a disgrace to DFY/OCFS. What was what former Governor Spitzer thinking when they hired Ms. Carrion; many of us just don't understand. My heart goes out to that family of the youth that died and the staff in critical condition.

rfactor

08-26-08 4:53 PM

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The above article speaks only of the top administrative change at Tryon--- word has it they cleaned house---and retired my ass--Rascoe was escorted off campus by Carrion's cronies---the next 2 administrators were also forced to leave as well by taking other positions within OCFS--with lesser pay-- then with the tragic news of the man in a coma who was hit with a piece of wood by one of the kids--Carrion sends her cronies to the hospital to console the family---console my ass-- they went to break the HIPA laws --to find out what is happening--and to see if they may face a law suit---- I hope the family of the this YDA looks into the legal aspects of OCSF's responsibility of not providing a safe work place--

sparkles

08-26-08 4:19 PM

[»Report Abuse](#)

As an ex employee of Tryon I also worked with the YDA that is in the Coma Fighting for his own Life. This YDA is a Very Professional and Respected person who always had a SMILE and a GOOD word to everyone he was in contact with including the Residents of Tryon. I hope this wakes up the ADMINISTRATION here at the local level to the ADMINISTRATOR'S in Albany that write the policies that protect the Resident and takes all the WORKING TOOLS From the Staff. My Prayer's go out to MR.CL and his Family, Friends, and to the Staff at Tryon, That I know are all Professionals in what ever Dept. they work in from Food Service, Medical, Education and The YDA's That are on the floor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. What a HORRIBLE way to end a LIFE TIME CAREER

JUSTATAXPAYER

08-26-08 3:50 PM Why has this incident not been reported by the LH? If this were one of the youths in there, they'd be all over it.
[»Report Abuse](#)

sawxfan34

08-26-08 2:43 PM I GUESS THIS HAPPENED A COUPLE WEEKS AGO WITH THIS YDA BEING STRUCK IN THE HEAD. BUT SINCE THEN HE SUFFERED A STROKE FROM AN ANEURYSM IN HIS HEAD WHICH COULDA BEEN CAUSED FROM A BLOW TO THE HEAD SUCH AS THIS. I HEARD THIS FROM A FRIEND WHO STILL WORKS AT THE FACILITY. I PERSONALLY HAD THE PLEASURE TO WORK WITH THIS YDA AND HE WAS GREAT MAN, AND A JOY TO WORK WITH. ITS A SAD DAY FOR ME, AND IM SURE MANY CO WORKERS AT THE FACILITY. MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH HIS FAMILY AND HE WILL MOST DEFINATELY BE MISSED
[»Report Abuse](#)

LHReader

08-26-08 2:31 PM This is the first I've heard of this, I think it's horrible, my thoughts and prayers are with the YDA and his family.
[»Report Abuse](#)

I had family member that worked there in the past... heard some stories,it can be a scary job at times.I can honestly say I am glad I don't work there.

GOGETTER

08-26-08 1:52 PM I have a brother in law that works for Tryon. Word is that he slipped into a coma after finding bleeding on the brain..and is on life support.
[»Report Abuse](#)

Ashley

08-26-08 12:12 PM Has anybody heard how the YDA is that got hit on the head with the 2 x 4? I heard that he is not doing well. Any info out there?
[»Report Abuse](#)

Injuries at Tryon outrage surgeon

<http://www.leaderherald.com/page/content.detail/id/505032.html>

guphi pup

08-25-08 1:31 PM I am so saddened by the fact Ms. Carrion doesn't feel concern for the men and women that choose to care for these "children". It has become so bad is seems the inmates are running the facilities without any recourse for their actions. The comprehensive retraining Ms. Carrion talks about are memoes and lists of what you will and won't do. Also if Ms. carrion doesn't want to read negative things about herself she needs to change jobs, that is what happens when you take on a position of control. She can't seriously think she can get away with the ridiculous changes and not be challenged.
[»Report Abuse](#)

beenthere2

08-22-08 9:32 PM Could just be a rumor but I have heard that people have deliberately been

guphiepup

[»Report Abuse](#) posing as YDA's and making ridiculous postings to make staff look bad. Please say it isn't so!!!

Goneforgood

08-22-08 10:17 AM [»Report Abuse](#) As a 25 yr. employee of OCFS, nearly 10 at Tryon, I can attest to Dr. Ortiz comments. This state of affairs is a DIRECT result of the pathetic excuse for a Commissioner, Gladys Carrion. What "extensive training" is she talking about? She must be referring to fines, suspensions and reports to the Child Abuse registry against innocent staff. She can't possibly be referring to the week we spent with the "trainers" for the infamous Sanctuary program. These folks had never stepped foot in a juvenile detention program before. They spent most of the week listening in awe at what it's like to work in our environment. They haven't been seen since. Ms. Carrion is trying desperately to make everyone but her the scapegoat in a failed program. The Agency needs a person with experience in working with juvenile delinquents and their challenges in reintegrating into society. A good Commissioner would have ASKED far more questions before deciding to "reform" the

ignoredissue

08-21-08 9:36 PM [»Report Abuse](#) In my post at 08-21-08 7:58 PM, very important word NO was replaced with the word THE by mistake, there was no actual training.

"There was NO actual training and practicing dealing with behavior problems that stem from prior trauma, deescalating stressed and aggressive youth acting out due to prior trauma or keeping a large group of mixed gang related residents that becomes hyper and aggressive at the first sight of violence with these mental illnesses she speaks of calm and relaxed."

RSanity2

08-21-08 7:07 PM [»Report Abuse](#) It is pretty clear that those running Tryon are no longer in control. Therefore I speak to the staff. You do not have to take being assaulted. These inmates are not above the law. I can honestly say, I have had thirteen students arrested for assaulting another. You the staff need to call in law enforcement officers. Have arrested those running Tryon as well as the inmates. NYS. you have an obligation to remove this pair running Tryon and bring them up on charges. If you don't I strongly recommend the staff bring charges against them as well as the inmates.

Spongebob

08-21-08 7:04 PM [»Report Abuse](#) Is it true that Tryon staff is not allowed to respond on here or any other news media? Aside from Mrs. Carrion, is there an unbalanced or high number of Spanish or African-American people in charge at OCFS compared to a Caucasian? If anyone knows yes or no please respond....

guphiepup

08-21-08 6:40 PM [»Report Abuse](#) I am so glad to see a Dr. making comment concerning the ever growing injuries OCFS staff are receiving at the hands of children. I do not work at Tryon but at another OCFS facility and we are also seeing staff being

guphiepup

physically abused and verbally abused. There is no recourse for the staff. Since when has it become ok for a child to disrespect adults and it should never be ok for children to put their hands on anyone. I have raised children and would never have even expected to be touched or sworn at, they knew this at a young age. The people that choose to work with children are not bad people. They are not in these jobs to hurt or abuse any child. Nor should they expect to go to work and feel threatened on any level. Ms. Carrion and those that support her need to look at the past. Also if the families that have these children could prevent them from making bad choices I am sure they would have done that long before they got into the juvenile system. Stop this madness.

mattym

08-21-08 6:23 PM

[»Report Abuse](#)

It is not right that all of these child care workers are getting hurt. As Commissioner of OCFS, Ms. Carrion should be concerned about the welfare of the children and the staff that serve them. If it is true she only cares about the kids she should be relieved of her duties. It takes a lot of people to help rehabilitate kids not just the administration. This is a deplorable situation. I do hope Governor Paterson is aware of these conditions.

NYS OCFS: "A culture of brutality" at Tryon

<http://www.nowpublic.com/world/nys-ocfs-culture-brutality-tryon#comments>

Ruben Hughes (not verified)

at 13:57 on August 28th, 2009

In spite of the US DOJ's investigation, on the three limited facilities and girl's secure center, the glaring fact remains that staff are being assaulted, murdered, and raped at OCFS facilities, without even a comment from Carrion the Commissioner. She endorsed the restraint policy and the changes, concerning when staff are authorized 3 (THREE) instances to use physical restraint. I work at Brookwood Secure in Columbia Co., why is it that with all the staff assaults there, and the alarming number of residents refusing to move, or lockdown when directed, Carrion is not coming to the forefront on this and remains indifferent? The number of vicious and malicious gang assaults on peers, and the total disregard for rules and compliance is increasing daily. Take a look at all the staff overtime, and staff out on workers comp, as a result of being injured while PROPERLY CONDUCTING A RESTRAINT. The inquiry is biased and one sided at best, and doesn't reflect the "real issues not only at Brookwood," but all the facilities statewide. As a line-staff who interacts with youth daily, I don't have the mindset to brutalize youth, and the majority of YDA'S (youth division aides) don't want to be the subject of child abuse/ maltreatment charges. This is our livelihood, unfortunately, we are not supported by Carrion and her cronies, and CSEA, the local union. The general public isn't aware that even those youth, that are tried as adults, in criminal court for murder and armed robbery, if under the age of 18, are considered children as it pertains to child abuse. One of my fellow YDA's had his nose fractured, after being struck with a chair, from a 6ft 2 inch 280 lb youth, who happens to be 15 years old. It takes at least 4-5 staff

to restrain this individual. The youth happens to be on the mental health unit, and is severely mentally ill, with the mindset of a 6 year old. How do we as staff, contain a struggling and resistive youth this size, without being physical? I hope the feds do come in and oversee OCFS facilities, surely it will be vastly better than the current PASSIVE and very LIBERAL current state of affairs. I didn't sign up for this job to be assaulted physically by these punks, and I'm not going out on a stretcher either (TRUST ME). At one point, we had 6 youth in the Columbia Co. jail, for either assaulting staff or other youth. Everytime I turn around, the OCFS Ombudsman/GESTAPO, resident legal folks are interrogating a staff, and are looking for inconsistencies, even though there are cameras and recording devices throughout both buildings. The MSP/lockdown unit is a thing of the past since the "pacifier givers" did a tour of our facility. These are dangerous juvenile criminals, who don't give a damn about the next victim, very few when released will lead productive, crime free lives, most will end up in the penitentiary, or dead (FACT). I am not advocating any abuse whatsoever, from anyone, however how do we contain and control these youth, without being labeled by Carrion as "intransigence". This is an insult and a travesty due to Carrion's unrealistic and delusional perceptions, that's right I said it! Carrion has the "reverse midas (mythical Greek mythology) touch," the more changes in facilities, the worst situations become. She has skillfully and willfully, shifted focus on her inadequacies and lack of facility operational expertise (absolutely NONE) to staff not doing things her way. Anyone not on board with her, is terminated. Her staff (DJJOY) are buttkissing lackies, and are in lockstep with her even though some way not be in agreement with her. THE MADDNESS CONTINUES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Greco's murder triggers tough questions for NYS OCFS

<http://www.nowpublic.com/world/grecos-murder-triggers-tough-questions-nys-ocfs>

Ruben Hughes-YDA_4 (not verified)

at 11:15 on August 13th, 2009

I happen to work at a secure facility-Brookwood/OCFS, Commissioner Carrion is intentionally and willfully making all facilities unsafe for staff and residents. There are increasing numbers of gang assaults-one against many attackers, staff being assaulted by youth, no severe consequences being taken, no line staff input as to their concerns and frustrations. This contributes to low morale, indifference and a sense of futility. She can state that she's saving money by closing facilities, and can implement ineffective initiatives, however, the tragic and senseless murder is a direct result of Commissioner Carrion's incompetence, and her staff's insistence to remain lock step with her policies, to keep their jobs at the expense of staff. Everyone knows this except for Commissioner Carrion and her Deputies and associate Commissioners. It will only get worse, trust me!

TimothyS (not verified)

at 22:50 on June 15th, 2009

Those questions definitely need to be asked, but it should not be forgotten that these two youths were set to be released soon. Who assessed these kids? The same should have been asked years ago after the sick murder of Jennifer Bolander in the Falls.

Senator Young calls for state investigation into NYS OCFS

<http://www.nowpublic.com/world/senator-young-calls-state-investigation-nys-ocfs>

Barbara McPherson

at 10:16 on June 11th, 2009

If there were six 'troubled' youths in the group home, a young woman should not have been expected to work alone. She should have had a male partner to work with no matter what the level of risk. It would not have been appropriate to have a young male supervising six 'troubled' females. What were the administrators thinking?

Jackpoy (not verified)

Everyone in this state should be very afraid of Commissioner Carrion. She would have these troubled youth back in school with your children...what then? Remeber the YDA (gaurd) who was beaten over the head with a two-by-four type piece of wood. He later had a stroke and died. This, however, had nothing to do with his death.....just a coincidence I suppose. How many more innocent people have to die before we realize YDAs and Youth counselors deal with dangerous criminals **regardless** of their age.

juviworker (not verified)

I work in at a location where a staff got hit in the head with a chair thrown by a youth (female) in the classroom 2wks ago. Now it looks like they are trying to have the charges dropped.

Bob Counselor (not verified)

at 20:39 on June 16th, 2009

FYI even Secure facilities For boys are have issues with assaults ,and dangerous violence ,many other youths in these places are being sent to county jails after assaults on staff and other residents.. but these are not making the news. It,s around the entire state... Carrion has tied our hands and have given control over to the kids.. Heck ,carrion has even approved a "social night" .This is a night when the a Youth may invite A female of there choice into a secure facility for a DANCE.. This is a max secure facility!!!! Come on!! Keep digging!! A Yda Even lost the tip of his finger months ago. Gang assaults

juviworker (not verified)

You are right, I work down state in non-secure, with limited secure kids. Thats all we are aloud to know about them. The are not being held accountable for their actions while in placement. Does the fact that they are teenagers make it less of a crime. The fact of the matter is these are not 8, 9 or 10 yr olds. We work with youth that are 13+ and weight between 120-200+ lbs and are aggressive, destructive, and very criminally minded. The YDA's need to be supported so the youth will fall in line, not the other way around.

Bob Counselor (not verified)

at 20:47 on June 16th, 2009

We Need the media To expose Carrion .. Please help us in OCFS..Thats 2deaths in less than one year.How many more will die under her ?

[Yeast Infection](#)

Well only media can help us bringing out in public,people who are behind all this...

no where to turn (not verified)

at 06:21 on June 18th, 2009

As a worker of OCFS,the public needs to know whats happening with our state workers. All u hear about is layoffs and cutbacks, welll this is what happens when they do this.As a woman in OCFS I know for a fact that u cannot search a male youth if needed so whats the deal , a women should have NEVER been left alone with these youth.If an instance came up where a search was needed its against policy to search them.I hope the investigations keep going , this is our only hope. This is the second death in OCFS at the hands of these youth offenders, not to mention the rising number of assaults on our staff. OCFS workers feel like there is no where to turn when trying to express the danger in all our facilities. We have tried to no avail. Carrion right now is so high on herself that she needs a reality check, I think its horrible that the reality check is Renee Greco.

[Justice2009](#)

Unfortunately someone had to be killed for an investigation into Commisioner Gladys Carrions mission which is to treat all youth with in their communities. However, this is not the first serious incident, there has been many including rapes and the shooting of the Rochester Police Officer not long ago. Commisioner Carrion uses the "smoke in the mirrors" trick, stating that she is saving taxpayers money by keeping these high risk adolescents in their communities. However, it is at the risk of community safety. Before Commisioner Carrion was appointed there were rules and policies in place, but she has changed this. When OCFS staff try to express their concerns, she threatens them with their jobs or will say they only are disgruntled employees who are losing their jobs. As the old saying goes, the truth will come out in the end, but how many other innocent people will be hurt or killed Ms. Carrion???

Sneez (not verified)

Windham Lawn/ 'Training continues in trauma treatment '- Yeah right! Were trained by our peers. Biggest crock of hog wash!!! Training started only after 'the program' was in effect for over a year. Truly the left hand did NOT know what the right hand was or is doing!!

Lawmakers Call For Action After Death of Counselor

<http://www.wgrz.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=67571&catid=13>

In your voice

READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY

ignoredissue wrote:

DaringRebel,

"im fed up with these courts just sending these kids into homes"

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THEM TO YOUR HOME MAYBE YOU CAN HAVE THE SAME OUTCOME. SHE HAD A BLANKET THROWN OVER HER HEAD AND SHE WAS BEAT TO DEATH WITH SOME OBJECT. WAKE UP NOT ALL "CHILDREN" CAN BE HELPED!!! SOME ARE JUST ANIMALS WHO DO NOT RESPECT PEOPLE OR LIFE AT ALL AND THEY ARE BETTER OFF TOSSED ASIDE AND FORGOTTEN ABOUT IN A HOLE SO THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE.....

6/15/2009 9:23 AM EDT on wgrz.com

shutterbug_11 wrote:

DaringRebel,

I am completely appalled by your statements. Not only would it tick me off in general even if I didn't know her; but I knew Renee through a friend of mine and your talking as if she got was coming to her because of ignorance? I agree with you that this case should be investigated and steps should be taken to avoid scenarios like this in the future, but to make an accusation that Renee could have prepared herself?! Street smart or not which you don't personally know about Renee by the way, she had a blanket thrown over her head! Do you think her murderers walked up to her with a blanket in the air and warned her "we're going to kill you now"? No they snuck up from behind her and beat her! You have nerve to say that she should've expected something like that because they are troubled and potentially dangerous. Some people unlike you apparently, have hope that they can make a difference in someone's life even though there can be risks. There are risks

in everyday life and careers and no matter who is more 'street smart" then another doesn't matter in the end..

R.I.P Renee

6/14/2009 10:13 PM EDT on wgrz.com

horseladyny wrote:

DaringRebel you are OBVIOUSLY ignorant! Do you know how many of us former and current employees have expressed our fears of how unsafe we felt to the administration?? MANY times and yet NOTHING was done about it!

6/13/2009 12:46 PM EDT on wgrz.com

DeeFrootloop wrote:

DaringRebel.. I'm so angry at your comments that I'm sitting here shaking. Who the hell do you think you are blaming the victim of a brutal attack?!?! How freakin' dare you. She was a VICTIM. What don't you understand about that?

The older boy stated that someone was going to die that night.. whether it was Renee or not.

Do you blame all victims of horrible crimes, or just women?

6/13/2009 10:24 AM EDT on wgrz.com

DaringRebel wrote:

whether she did or didnt is not the point. how many times have women been told not to jog alone or walk alone in bad areas or dont walk through parking lots alone at night or watch how you hold your purse. as much as this is a horrible crime, how do you know she did?? if she did maybe this wouldnt have happened. if she didn't than why not? pressure from above? afraid of losing her job?if she was there for a long time, she got too comfortable in her job like many do and than forget to do their job!!! college educated,but not street smart!!! the street smart people are the ones in these houses, and they need to get better trained and more people who have some life experience's who have had to be on alert at one time or another in their lives.watching out for themselves regardless of their paycheck,and not some young college educated young woman who thinks these people are friends. im sorry for the family's loss, but you just cant hire young adults for these jobs. i dont care if they have 10 masters degrees. learn a little about life first before you just take a job like this. the people who run these places dont care . theyre the ones making the money under the table like the judges who send them there(right lancaster?)while they pay these young adults nothing. whoever is in charge should be suspended/fired and a full investigation should be under way to see that this does not happen again in any of these homes and hiring practice's should be watched closely and these programs are getting money from taxpayers who arent paying attention either to where their money goes.

who is in control of how these monies are being payed out to these courts that are sending kids there? NO ONE!!!

6/13/2009 7:52 AM EDT on wgrz.com

Wyldbutterfly wrote:

DarinRebel wrote: " she wasnt smart enough to speak up and say, i dont want to be left alone with these kids who show signs of violence? "

This really ticks me off!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! You have no idea if Renee spoke of her concerns to her employer!!!

6/13/2009 6:14 AM EDT on wgrz.com

Ifeltunsafe wrote:

While Julie Tomasini may be a "compassionate" person but New Directions should immediately bar her from making any statements to the public. Good for her that she has never felt threatened in her job. She has been a social worker and a clinical director--meaning she has never spent 5 minutes alone with 5 teens, let alone in an isolated setting at night. I worked full time at New Directions, and at 6ft & 200lbs, I DEFINITELY had experiences where I felt threatened at work. A previous poster was correct about the training for restraints---if you try to break up an altercation by yourself and a resident gets hurt, you run the risk of being charged with child abuse. There have been a lot of kids helped by the system, especially those from bad homes, but there are just as many delinquents that are simply being housed in these facilities that are a danger to the staff & other residents.

6/12/2009 11:18 AM EDT on wgrz.com

DaringRebel wrote:

these rehab and halfway houses and drug dependency units are costing the public a fortune!! yes this incident in lockport was horrible. try and look at it from another side. no good dirty egg suckin' corrupt judges who send your kids to these places knowing that they get kickbacks for themselves and the little puppets they hire to help them. the people running these places are getting so much money for themselves and than they hire young kids out of college and pay them minimum wage to watch over kids who have drug and violence issues. there are so many kids graduating from college who know nothing of life. their a dime a dozen these counselors. no experience at all. she wasnt smart enough to speak up and say, i dont want to be left alone with these kids who show signs of violence? who should the family blame? courts and the people running these places thats who! no one is watching them. the people who say they are, are liars. their filling their pockets with corrupt money. and its your tax dollars!!!! blame yourselves to...

6/12/2009 10:47 AM EDT on wgrz.com

DaringRebel wrote:

im fed up with these courts just sending these kids into homes that dont work. all their doing is making matters worse for the kids. yes they can be bad but does that mean we should toss these kids aside and forget them or do we look into the court system thats making alot of money under the table(like lancaster)just so they can justify the money

6/12/2009 10:15 AM EDT on wgrz.com

wnyamerican wrote:

I live very close to Wyndham Lawn and believe me, it's not fun. The kids run away and the cops have to find them. Staff is told not to try and keep them from fleeing. Management won't tell us why the kids are there, it violates their rights. What about our rights???? They pay bare minimum wages and expect staff to perform miracles. When the Diagnostics Center was at the Niagara County Fairgrounds the staff was as much of a problem as the kids were. They broke into buildings, etc. I know these kids need help and some are not really bad kids, sometimes their parents have failed them. However, there are kids at Wyndham that have committed crimes and are mixed in with the poor kids that just need a little help. The state should not allow such a diverse group of kids to be housed together. Add to that the kids that come there for day school and it really gets crazy. The neighborhood told Wyndham Lawn six years ago to sell the property and go build a facility out in the middle of nowhere before we have a tragedy. They told us they didn't think there would ever be a problem. Since then 2 brothers were released and 2 weeks later murdered Jennifer Bolander in Niagara Falls. Kids have stolen cars, they've had near riots and now this poor girl has been murdered. It's time to close this facility and move the programs to a secure location, not in the middle of small town America.

6/11/2009 11:47 PM EDT on wgrz.com

horseladyny wrote:

Moreinfo, how about the people who are "formulating their opinions" that used to be employed by New Directions?! It's the same outrage and devastation as those that have never been involved with the agency. You can be "caring, compassionate, and dedicated" but that is NOT enough as you can see. It's about darn time the truth came out about that place.

Lets "focus that rage" on everyone involved, not just the two killers.

6/11/2009 2:37 PM EDT on wgrz.com

drtomas wrote:

Dear moreinfo2it.....How much more info does one need....she had a blanket put over her head and she was beaten to death. She was there by herself. It was state policy for her to be there by herself. That was like 3

seconds. More like fullofit.
6/11/2009 11:34 AM EDT on wgrz.com

DeeFrootloop wrote:

Moreinfo2it, you're right.. perhaps the "I hope you can't sleep at night" that I ended my post with was a little bit harsh. I'm sure they're devastated, too.. But they need to accept some responsibility here. By basically saying, "well, *I* never felt threatened, sooooooo..", Tomasi is completely passing the blame and not admitting that the current policies are in no way safe for these workers. I'm not saying that Tomasi isn't a caring and compassionate woman, but she had no right to say what she did. It insinuated that somehow, Renee had lost control of the boys that night, which is absolutely not true.

There is ZERO reason for Renee to have been in charge of those boys by herself, and especially not at night. No woman should be left alone with a bunch of misfits. Seriously, how can that NOT be an issue with the company? Renee was not the type of woman to just not do her job. The company's lack of safety measures put her and other workers in harm's way. Period. End of story.

Renee was a kind-hearted woman who was just doing her job, which she took pride in.. and her life was cut far too short *because* of that job.

dutch2 wrote:

moreinfo, sure the two thugs are ultimately to blame, but New Direction has a share of the blame as well. This "policy" was BS and YOU know it as well as the rest of us do! The fact that this Tomasi could not admit it was just plain stupid to have one 24 year old girl alone with 5-6 teenaged boys is simply pathetic.

6/11/2009 11:15 AM EDT on wgrz.com

moreinfo2it wrote:

As someone who knows the staff personally at this group home and this agency, I can say each and every one of them are devastated by Renee's death. I am saddened to see that people formulate their opinions based upon a 5 second clip of an entire interview. It is unfortunate that their sadness and outrage about this horrific event was not portrayed in the news. As far as Julie Tomasi, she is one of the most caring, compassionate, and dedicated people I know.

An entire community is outraged at a brutally horrible act. Let's focus that rage at the two people that really deserve it..Anthony Allen and Robert

Thousand.

6/11/2009 11:06 AM EDT on wgrz.com

dutch2 wrote:

Also does it really matter if Tomasi "never felt threatened"??? Whether anyone actually "felt" threatened is not the point! The point is it was NOT EVER a safe environment for any one person (female OR male) to be in alone! It is way to easy for a group of 5 or 6 to overtake one person. Again...COMMON SENSE!!!!

6/11/2009 11:02 AM EDT on wgrz.com

dutch2 wrote:

Great, they followed State policy (because we all know how reliable and efficiently the state works!)...how about the policy of COMMON SENSE???????? These people should be held accountable right alongside the actual murderers!

6/11/2009 10:57 AM EDT on wgrz.com

DeeFrootloop wrote:

"Julie Tomasi says Greco had the training, was capable of keeping the home under control, "I guess my reaction is, first of all as a woman who has worked in that program for the past ten years, I never once [felt] that I was unsafe or unable to do my job as a woman."

Wow.. just WOW. Did she really just say that s**t?? Oh, hell no. What a disgusting statement. Nice try covering her butt, but how dare she in any way whatsoever try to place blame on anyone other than these boys and this organization's policies, or lack thereof.

Seriously, just because she never felt unsafe, does that automatically mean that it WAS a safe situation? No, it sure doesn't. Two completely different things. Lots of things can appear safe, but it doesn't mean that they are. How in the hell are you supposed to be able to "keep the home under control" when you have a blanket over your head and being beaten to death?

And just because Tomasi personally never felt unsafe (which I guarantee is a bold faced lie), it certainly doesn't mean that Renee didn't at any point. In fact, I've heard quite a few people mention that Renee had said that she felt uncomfortable many times.

This organization needs to be investigated heavily.. and you damn well better do more than "review" your policies. Renee was murdered because of your lack of adequate safety measures. How about taking some of that responsibility now instead of trying to place blame elsewhere? You OWE

Renee more than that. I really hope you can't sleep at night.

6/11/2009 10:34 AM EDT on wgrz.com

Blizzard wrote:

Excuse me????? State policy says that only one lone person needs to be in charge of these kids. Who made up this rule? A girl is dead because of the stupidity of the state? The group home is responsible! Just because the state has that policy doesn't mean the group home can't have security! Do they not understand that these kids are dangerous? Some one needs to pay and I mean pay dearly!

6/11/2009 9:52 AM EDT on wgrz.com

JRbuff wrote:

This is outrageous. The people who allowed this one girl to be alone with 5 criminals are complicit in her murder. There is no excuse at all for what they allowed to happen.

And criminal kids should be in jail, not in houses in someone's neighborhood. Totally ridiculous.

6/11/2009 9:34 AM EDT on wgrz.com

horseladyny wrote:

As a former employee, yes we are trained (if that's what you want to call it)... but we are trained to restrain using TWO people, we do NOT have permission to take down a person solo, you WILL be fired and you WILL ruin your professional career if you do. If there is an uproar like that night, how the heck do you expect us to calm the chaos when it is a 6:1 ratio?! It's ILLEGAL to have just one person! Think of lawsuits and past inappropriate staff-student relationships, we were not permitted to be alone with kids of the opposite gender either! Staff have been accused and yelled at over the years about it.

I feel so sorry for Renee and her family, but I'm not surprised this happened, only that this tragedy didn't happen to someone sooner. The average turnover rate for staff in these types of positions is 6 months. Renee had the experience but not the backup. Many of the NEW staff in her position disclose a lot of confidential information to kids (who are NOT that much older than them!) and foolishly make accusations which could escalate a child to a dangerous level.

Oh and Julie, we know you are full of it! Just another cover-up by Wyndham Lawn.

Again, this is why I left.

chezgirl wrote:

I am so fed up with the State regs excuse. We get these state regs from a bunch of yahoo's sitting in an office crunching numbers according to some formula to come up with number of staff per number of clients. 9 times out of 10 times these number crunchers have no idea what the work environment is like and nor do they have any interest in finding out because the dollars are the priority and not staff or client safety. These 2 thugs could have gone after another youth and killed them and how is one staff going to stop them. I hope her family sues.

6/10/2009 11:26 PM EDT on wgrz.com