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RECEIVED
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May 26, 2022

Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Gordon Mar, Chair

The Honorable Catherine Stefani, Member

The Honorable Myrna Melgar, Member

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: **Agenda Item #4: Skilled Nursing Care Transfer Reporting Requirements**

Dear Chair Mar and Members of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

1. My understanding is that PSNS Chair Mar had planned to work with Supervisor Safai to introduce a hearing request at the full Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday May 24 for a hearing to be held in early fall 2022 to receive the first reports from SFDPH and all San Francisco discharging hospitals about the number of patients each hospital had discharged out-of-county for both sub-acute SNF care and regular SNF care as part of File # 220410 that the Board of Supervisors passed on May 3, 2022.

Unfortunately, I don't think that hearing request was introduced on Tuesday, May 24 during the full Board of Supervisors meeting. I urge the PSNS Committee to submit such a hearing request as quickly as possible, hopefully for holding a hearing by mid-September 2022, if possible.

2. I am again urging the PSNS Committee to introduce additional amendments today to the original file #211177 to expand the scope of data to be reported by San Francisco hospital to include other types of out-of-county facilities patients are discharged to for other levels of healthcare. Amendments are still needed to require reporting of discharges to Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE's) — including "Memory Care" facilities — Intermediate Care facilities, licensed Board and Care Facilities, licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARF's) for younger adults aged 18 to 64, and other types of licensed assisted living facilities, in addition to reporting discharge data for patients discharged out-of-county for regular Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and sub-acute SNF level of care, as well as discharges to out-of-county Long Term Acute Care Facilities, Long-Term Care Acute Hospitals (LTACH's) and other acute-care general hospitals.

3. **Out-of-County Discharges from Laguna Honda Hospital During Potential Facility Closure** As I testified to the full Board of Supervisors, the full Board has scheduled holding a Committee of the Whole hearing on June 14 on the potential closure of Laguna Honda Hospital noted in a 37-page background file "*Laguna Honda Hospital's Strategy for Recertification and the Submission of a Closure and Patient Transfer and Relocation Plan*" that LHH apparently completed and submitted to the California DPH on May 13.

Page 13 of the *Closure Plan* says LHH will provide **daily updates** to California DPH (CDPH) reporting the number of discharges from LHH and its corresponding remaining patient census. And Page 16 of the *Closure Plan* says Laguna Honda will **submit weekly reports** to CMS [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services] and CDPH detailing the status of each patient's discharge or transfer.

On Tuesday, May 24, Supervisor Peskin stated on the record during the Board's agenda item on the LHH *Closure and Relocation Plan* that since LHH is required to submit reports and updates to CDPH and CMS on the number of discharges from LHH and its remaining patients census, he (Peskin) was specifically requesting that SFDPH prepare and submit those reports in advance of the Board of Supervisors June 14 hearing so City Supervisors know what the number of discharges look like on a weekly basis and what the remaining patient census is. Supervisor Peskin also stated that given problems with SFDPH's Electronic Health Records (EHR) database named Epic, he was requesting that DPH track the types of facilities and locations of facilities LHH patients are being discharged to and Peskin requested that level of data be made available prior to the June 14 hearing.

Supervisor Mar also stated on Tuesday, May 24 that the weekly report updates to CDPH and CMS about out-of-county discharges and types of facilities patients are discharged to should be required by the Ordinance in File # 220410 that

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the Board of Supervisors passed on May 3, 2022 requiring reporting of out-of-county discharges from San Francisco's acute care hospitals and two hospital-based SNF's.

The PSNS Committee should act today and amend file #211177, and then continue this item to the call of the Chair in order to fully consider additional data reporting that is critical to understanding the scope of patients being discharged out-of-county due to the lack of available healthcare facilities in San Francisco.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Monette-Shaw

Columnist

Westside Observer Newspaper

cc: The Honorable Connie Chan, Supervisor, District 1
The Honorable Aaron Peskin, Supervisor, District 3
The Honorable Dean Preston, Supervisor, District 5
The Honorable Matt Dorsey, Supervisor, District 6
The Honorable Rafael Mandelman, Supervisor, District 8
The Honorable Hillary Ronen, Supervisor, District 9
The Honorable Shamann Walton, Supervisor, District 10
The Honorable Ahsha Safai, Supervisor, District 11
Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Alisa Somera, Clerk of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
Daisy Quan, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Gordon Mar
Edward Wright, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Gordon Mar
Li Miao Lovett, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Gordon Mar
Alan Wong, Administrative Aide to Supervisor Gordon Mar