

May 2, 2013

Catherine Vogel, State Attorney Office of the State Attorney 530 Whitehead Street Suite 201 Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Ms. Vogel:

The South Florida Behavioral Health Network, Inc. has decided to terminate its funding of your DUI prosecutor two months before the expiration of our contract. We have decided that we prefer these funds go to treatment rather than prosecution of offenders.

This action was taken solely for the purpose of better aligning The South Florida behavioral Health Network's (SFBHN's) budget with community system of care needs and is not related to any performance on your organizations part. I hope that you can appreciate and understand SFBHN's need to allocate our limited funding in a manner that best supports the entire system of care needs and I look forwarded to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

John W. Dow President and CEO

JWD:jmh





UPLIFTING THE HUMAN SPIRIT

## GUIDANCE/CARE CENTER, INC.

May2, 2013

The Honorable Catherine Vogel State Attorney 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Florida 530 Whitehead Street, Suite 201 Key West, Florida 33040

Dear State Attorney Vogel:

I regret to inform you of required action we must take to end funding for the Assistant State Attorney [ASA] Position as defined in our Prosecutor Funding Agreement effective May 31, 2013.

As you know, the Guidance Care Center applied for state substance abuse prevention funding based on a proposal that included an environmental strategy, which by 2015, would reduce DUI crashes 10 % countywide amongst 18-20 year olds. The proposal clearly stated "As part of our environmental strategy, we propose a part - time prosecutor from the State Attorney's Office to be contracted to provide hours dedicated to prosecute DUI cases and parents who host parties contributing to underage drinking". The budget and budget narrative also clearly indicated the use of these funds for prosecution purposes. Based on a complaint our funding source [South Florida Behavioral Health Network] determined that the initial approval and funding of an ASA position was in error and would need to be discontinued.

All of us here at the Guidance Care Center are proud of the work we are doing to promote a healthier community. It is well documented that environmental strategies are an effective way to prevent and reduce substance abuse. These strategies utilize diverse approaches in achieving a desired effect including policy change, media campaigns, enforcement/compliance regulations and so forth. In this regard, your office is an important component of our efforts. We are hopeful our community partnership will continue in this vital worthwhile effort to save lives and reduce underage drinking.

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If you have any questions regarding this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Frank C. Rabbito, Sr. Vice President

C: John Dow, CEO, South Florida Behavioral Health Network
Maureen Kempa, Children and Family Services Director, Guidance Care Center
Marianne Benvenuti, Controller, Guidance Care Center
Bill Embry, CEO, Monroe County Coalition
Frank Sauer, Executive Director, Monroe County Coalition