

August 24, 2015

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Honorable Supervisors,

I write in reference to Agenda item #5 on August 25, 2015.

As a volunteer family advocate working with parents whose children with serious mental illness reside at the jail, I hear about cases in which these persons cannot obtain timely medical and mental health care for conditions requiring it.

I urge that, should Corizon be awarded another year- or two year- long contract, that as a condition a monitor be formally assigned to observe and report on treatment deficiencies, including mental health treatment. Furthermore, I specifically recommend the monitor or monitoring agency be tasked with particular attention to persons with mental illness spending many months in isolation at the jail without adequate treatment.

Thank you,

Lynne Gibbs