

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE

REPORT
OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

for the calender years

1961 - 1962

days *granted* (Emphasis supplied) in any one year by the Commission.”

There is no question that the legislature intended that the division of the money to the licensees is based on a proportion between the racing days granted to an individual licensee and the total racing days granted to all licensees. The number of days actually raced has no bearing whatsoever upon the division of the money among the licensees.

GEORGE C. WEST
Deputy Attorney General

August 4, 1961

To: William E. Schumacher, M.D., Director of Bureau of Mental Health

Re: Chapter 303, Public Laws, 1961

Section 171, Chapter 303, Public Laws of 1961, provides — “A voluntary patient who requests his release or whose release is requested, in writing, by his legal guardian, parent, spouse or adult next of kin, shall be released forthwith except that: . . . ”

You have asked for an interpretation of this part of the section as to whether or not the request for release must be in writing whether made by the patient or the other parties named in this section.

A careful reading of this section would indicate that any request for release, whether by the patient or by the other parties named, must be in writing. A verbal request for release by a patient should not be accepted.

GEORGE C. WEST
Deputy Attorney General

August 4, 1961

To: Mrs. Frances J. Banks, R.N., President
Maine State Board of Nursing
363 Main Street
Lewiston, Maine

Dear Mrs. Banks:

We have your letter of August 3 inquiring to what extent your office can protect the confidentiality of records.

In order to answer your question properly it would be necessary for this office to know particular records to which you are referring. A review of Chapter 69-A, Practice of Nursing, does not indicate that any records of your office are declared to be confidential. Generally in the absence of a statutory declaration of confidentiality, the records of a public office are public records. It may be possible that certain records can be treated as confidential, but in order for this office to advise you on the matter it would be necessary for us to know to what records you are referring.