

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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October 3, 1961

Peter V. Downen, M.D., Sup't.

Pineland Hospital & Training Center

Courtland D. Perry, II, Asst. Atty. Gen'l.

Mental Health and Corrections

Volunteer Activities

With reference to your memo of September 29, 1961, I am unable to find any prohibition against your patients leaving Pineland in the care of volunteers and for the purposes mentioned in your memorandum. I would suggest that you be assured before these patients leave that each vehicle is covered by a liability policy. Upon inquiry into the liability insurance carried on State owned vehicles I find that they are covered by \$50,000 - \$100,000 personal injury and \$10,000 property damage. I consider these figures to be an indication of coverage acceptable to the State and a guide by which you might measure the adequacy of the coverage on vehicles driven by the volunteers. Some people would consider such coverage in excess of that is logically needed, but in reality today such protection is almost essential and the increase of the cost of yearly premiums over that of a \$25,000 - \$50,000 policy is negligible. I offer these figures by way of suggestion and not demand and do not feel that you should insist on such standards where it would mean the loss of the services of a potential volunteer. I would, however, insist that the coverage be not less than \$25,000 - \$50,000 personal injury.

As in the case of patients leaving Pineland for temporary stays I suggest that you secure from the volunteers an assurance that the patients will be properly cared for while in their custody. Such measures would impress upon the volunteers the full nature of their responsibility.

Courtland D. Perry, II,
Assistant Attorney General

CDP/ems

✓ cc: Attorney General