

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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William E. Schuracker, Director

Bureau of Mental Health

Gourtland D. Perry, II, Asst. Attorney General      Mental Health and Corrections

Physicians' verbal correction of errors on admission papers with subsequent written confirmation.

**Question presented:**

Upon discovery of errors in admission papers of involuntary patients, such as incomplete name, incomplete erroneous address, or incorrect dates, may hospital officials secure verbal correction thereof from the certifying physician and indicate such correction on the admission papers with subsequent written confirmation of such corrections from the physician?

I am unable to find a legal bar to such a procedure. Indeed, it would appear that such corrections would be of the utmost importance in the event of an error as to the date of examination when admission or non-admission depends on the time lapse between examination and proposed admission date. It is my opinion that the practice in question may be pursued without fear of contravention of any law or the rights of any persons.

ONE/s

