

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

PUBLIC HEALTH HEARING OFFICE

Janet Pietruszka
c/o Complete Care at Groton Regency
1145 Poquonnock Road
Groton, CT 06340

First Class & Certified Mail:
7005 2570 0001 4582 1593

Jeff Turner, Administrator
Complete Care of Groton Regency
1145 Poquonnock Road
Groton, CT 06340

Via Email: JTurner@ccgrotonregency.com
First Class & Certified Mail:
7005 2570 0001 4582 1548

RE: Docket No: 250421; Pietruszka, Janet v. Complete Care of Groton Regency

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to an appeal and request for hearing received by the Department of Public Health on April 21, 2025, the Department will hold a hearing pursuant to § 19a-535a of the Connecticut General Statutes on:

Monday April 28, 2025, at 10:00 AM

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 274 488 335 578 5

Passcode: G8pN737L

Dial in by phone

[+1 860-840-2075, 115315266#](tel:+18608402075115315266) United States, Hartford

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 115 315 266#

You are urged to email phho.dph@ct.gov the day before the hearing to verify this schedule. The purpose of the hearing is to determine whether the discharge of **Janet Pietruszka** is being effected in accordance with statute.

The hearing shall be conducted by **Stacy Schulman, Esq.**, who is hereby appointed as Hearing Officer, and who shall rule on all motions, determine findings of fact and conclusions of law, and issue an Order.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 54 of the General Statutes and §§ 19a-9-1, *et seq.*, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Janet Pietruszka and Complete Care of Groton Regency are hereby designated as parties at this hearing.



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Each party may be represented by an attorney and may, in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 4-177c and 4178, present evidence and argument on all issues involved and conduct cross-examination. It is the parties' obligation to call any person they desire as a witness or to offer any documentary evidence they wish to be considered.

Please note if you are a corporation: Corporations must be represented by an attorney. If a corporation is not represented by an attorney at the hearing, the persons who attend the hearing from the corporation may only testify as witnesses and may not make legal arguments, cross examine witnesses, or in any way engage in the practice of law.

If you are not a legal entity, you may appear *pro se* (i.e. on your own behalf) or you may opt to have counsel represent you at the hearing. Any counsel appearing on behalf of a party must file an appearance with this office.

If you need an interpreter, please advise the Department no later than three calendar days before the hearing.

The licensee shall provide the resident with a copy of this Notice of Hearing on the date it is received by the licensee and shall notify the Public Health Hearing Office that the resident received this Notice of Hearing. The licensee's notification to the Public Health Hearing Office shall be made on a date prior to the hearing date and shall be sent via email to phho.dph@ct.gov and shall include the date the resident received the Notice of Hearing.

The licensee will assist the resident in connecting to the remote hearing.

The licensee shall prove by a preponderance of the evidence that it has complied with the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-535a including but not limited to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-535a(c) pertaining to the submission of a discharge plan to the resident and to the Commissioner. Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-535a(d)(2), any involuntary discharge of the patient shall be stayed, pending the final decision of the Department in this matter.

Order Re: Filings

The parties are hereby ordered, when submitting any pleadings, documents, motions, or other papers to the Hearing Officer, to file electronically pursuant to the attached Notice of Submissions at the following address: phho.dph@ct.gov

All communications to the Hearing Officer shall be submitted in this fashion. The parties shall provide a copy of each document filed to each of the other parties and shall certify such to the Hearing Officer.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Ryan M. Burns, Chief Hearing Officer

cc. Stacy Schulman, Hearing Officer
Lorraine Cullen Branch Chief, HQS
Mairead Painter, Long Term Ombudsperson
Stacey Larrabee, Southeast Regional Ombudsperson

Notice for Submissions

The hearing in the matter of: **Pietruszka, Janet v. Complete Care of Groton Regency** has been scheduled for **April 28, 2025, at 10:00 AM** and will be conducted remotely through Microsoft Teams / teleconference.

On or before **April 25, 2025**, you must provide the following by electronic mail response to the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov:

1. Electronically Pre-filed exhibits – Exhibits should be pre-marked for identification (i.e., Department exhibit 1, Respondent exhibit A), page numbered, **and properly redacted for any personally identifiable information**. All exhibits also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel. ***Parties and/or counsel should stipulate to any exhibits and facts not in dispute and provide any objections to proposed exhibits.***
2. Witness List – identify any persons expected to be called to testify. Be sure to notify your witnesses that they will be required to remain available and in attendance for the full duration of the hearing. (This will eliminate the difficulty of trying to reach witnesses again for rebuttal or additional examination later in the hearing). Witness lists also must be sent to the opposing party or counsel.
3. Photo Identification: Self-represented parties should provide a copy of a government-issued photo identification for yourself and any witnesses you expect to call. Photo identification is *not* required for parties represented by counsel, or witnesses called to testify for parties represented by counsel.
4. Electronic Mail (“e-mail”) addresses for parties, counsel, and witnesses. All e-mail addresses must be current and able to receive all notices relating to this matter.
5. Cellphone numbers for all parties, counsel, and witnesses at which they can be reached and respond to text message during the hearing (in the event a connection is lost).
6. A statement whether executive session may be required to receive testimony containing personal protected information, and if so, what that information may be (treatment records, patient records, therapy reports). Parties or counsel should identify any witnesses listed in response to #2 above who may provide testimony relating to personal protected information requiring executive session.
7. A statement whether an interpreter will be needed for the proceeding.

This is a formal public hearing. It will be video recorded and posted on the DPH website for public viewing*. All hearing participants should appear on video in proper attire, in proper surroundings, and remove any potential distractions.

In preparation, please make sure all your devices are fully functioning and properly charged. All participants are required to have video and audio functions on when testifying or speaking.

Documents are not required to be shared on-screen during hearings, as all parties, attorneys, board members and/or hearing officers have been provided such documents prior to the hearing. Parties and/or attorneys who elect to share documents for viewing on-screen during the hearing must do so from their own equipment. Confidential documents should only be shared in executive session. Hearing Office staff / Teams administrators are not responsible for the sharing of submitted documents in the presentation of a party's case.

Should you have any question please contact the hearing office at phho.dph@ct.gov.

**The executive session portion of any hearing will not be recorded on video or posted for public viewing.*

