



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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March 3, 2026

Mr. James Flannery
222 Williams Street E., #422
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Flannery:

I am writing to you in response to your requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

First, I address completing the request set forth in your letter dated January 7, 2026 in which you "request information on all of the probate hearings pertaining to involuntary shock therapy in the State of Connecticut for 2025. Specifically, I am requesting:

- the dates,
- the docket numbers,
- the court decisions,
- the names of the probate courts that the petitions were submitted to,
- the district numbers of said probate courts,
- the names of the hospitals that filed the petitions, and
- the names of the facilities that were petitioned to administer the shock therapy."

You further state "[f]or clarity, I am *not* requesting the names of individuals who have been the subject of petitions for shock therapy."

As previously stated to you, the courts do not collect data on the dates, the names of the hospitals that filed the petitions, nor the names of the facilities that were petitioned to administer the shock therapy. As also previously stated to you, the docket numbers and the court decisions are confidential file information which we are prohibited by statute from furnishing to you.

In my letter to you dated September 8, 2025, I furnished the number of filed petitions for order authorizing shock therapy for patients with psychiatric disabilities

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identified by the name and district number of the probate courts for **calendar years** 2012 through September 4, 2025. Again, the numbers provided were petitions filed with the Connecticut Probate Courts and not petitions granted or approved.

In addition, I note that statistical data is collected on a fiscal year basis (July to June). To complete your request for the number of petitions for order authorizing shock therapy for patients with psychiatric disabilities based on the method by which data is collected, data for fiscal year 2025 are not presently available. They will be finalized in the coming months which we will furnish to you at that time.

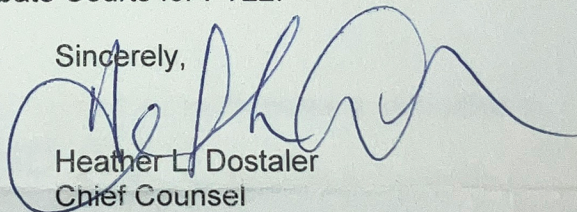
Finally, by email communication sent on February 11, 2026, you state you "have a single query that should sort out [probate data related to psychiatric treatment]."

In the 2022-2023 Biennial Report, under the "CONSERVATORS" heading, the entry for "Authority to Consent to Psychiatric Medication Treatment C.G.S. § 17a-543(e)" states that 400 such matters were dealt with in the probate court for FY22.

How many requests for forced medication were made that year for individuals who were NOT under a conservatorship?"

I interpret your inquiry to request the number of petitions filed for orders authorizing psychiatric medication treatment for non-consenting patients with psychiatric disabilities under C.G.S. § 17a-543(f) in FY22 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022). There were 8 such petitions filed in the Probate Courts for FY22.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Heather L. Dostaler', is written over the typed name and title.

Heather L. Dostaler
Chief Counsel