

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Committee for Public Counsel Services
MENTAL HEALTH LITIGATION UNIT

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TO: Mental Health Counsel
FROM: Stan Goldman
RE: Maggie Lunevitz
DATE: March 15, 2010

Hi all -

I've been in denial for some time, but I suppose that I can't put off making the announcement any longer: Maggie has decided to retire, effective immediately.

Maggie has served as the Mental Health Litigation Unit's staff attorney for almost 9 years. In addition to carrying her own caseload, Maggie helped create and oversee our mentoring program, monitor compliance with our performance standards, assist in trainings, and field advice inquiries from attorneys, clients and others. She always handled these responsibilities with the competence and diligence one would expect of any professional. But Maggie added something more to the mix. As a consumer of mental health services, Maggie understood and appreciated all too well what our clients were going through - the dread when faced with long-term confinement in a psychiatric hospital or treatment with mind-altering medications. And, she was able to utilize this understanding and experience both to ensure that our clients were always treated with dignity and respect, and to educate all of us as to how to foster the attorney-client rapport that is particularly crucial in our practice area.

Maggie has been an invaluable member of the Mental Health Litigation Unit. She has been well-respected by her fellow mental health attorneys; feared by hospital counsel and staff; and, most importantly, loved by our clients.

It has been my great honor and privilege to have worked these many years with Maggie - my colleague and my friend.