



CITY OF FORT WAYNE

SHARON TUCKER, MAYOR

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

May 28, 2026

Hendricks Behavioral Hospital
ATTN: Highest Ranking Executive Officer
Chief Legal Officer
CT Corporation System
334 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Violation of Transient Individual Relocation Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally address a serious incident involving the discharge and transport of a homeless, mentally ill individual from your facility to Fort Wayne. On or about May 22, 2026, Hendricks Behavioral Hospital, located in Plainfield, Indiana, (“HBH”) arranged for Keaton Green (“Green”) to be transported more than 140 miles to the W. Paul Wolf Rescue Mission (“Rescue Mission”) in Fort Wayne, Indiana.¹ According to the police report and body-worn camera footage, Green stated he was released from HBH while still experiencing suicidal thoughts and subsequently dropped off in Fort Wayne against his will.

Transporting Green to Fort Wayne constitutes a direct violation of Fort Wayne City Code § 104, which governs the relocation of transient homeless individuals into the City of Fort Wayne.

Under § 104, it is unlawful to transport or cause the transport of a homeless individual into Fort Wayne unless one of five narrowly defined exceptions applies. One such exception requires that the individual be transported directly to a homeless shelter or service provider that has agreed in advance to accept them.

The Rescue Mission was not contacted, did not consent, and did not agree to receive Green. As a result, this transport does not fall under any of the permitted exceptions outlined in § 104.03(A). The ordinance was enacted specifically to prevent uncoordinated drop-offs of homeless individuals from outside jurisdictions - conduct that places vulnerable individuals at risk and shifts the burden of care onto local providers without any opportunity for preparation, assessment, or safety planning.

¹ Incident Report 25F05536 is attached for your reference.

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Violations of this ordinance carry a civil penalty of \$2,500 per offense, underscoring the seriousness with which the City of Fort Wayne views unauthorized relocation of homeless individuals into its jurisdiction.

Requested Actions

To prevent future violations and ensure compliance with Fort Wayne City Code, we respectfully request:

1. A written explanation of the circumstances that led to this discharge and transport decision.
2. A copy of HBH's policies regarding the discharge of homeless or mentally ill individuals, particularly when transportation to another city or county is involved.
3. Written assurance that no future discharges to Fort Wayne or its service providers will occur without prior communication and explicit acceptance from the receiving organization, as required by City Code § 104.

At this time, we also request that you preserve all records relating to this matter, including discharge notes, transportation arrangements, internal communications, and any documentation provided to or received from Green.

We look forward to your prompt response.

Malak B. Heiny
City Attorney
City of Fort Wayne
200 East Berry Street, Suite 430
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
P: 260-427-2339 F: 260-427-5678
Malak.Heiny@cityoffortwayne.org

CC: Mayor Sharon Tucker; Fort Wayne Police Chief PJ Smith; Andrew Downs, Chief of Staff

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