

July 27, 2014

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am responding to a recent complaint against the Brady Fire/EMS accusing them of basically giving unlicensed medical care and routinely bypassing the local hospital E.R. department.

I am the Treasurer of Taxpayers for Sensible Government (TPSG), a state registered McCulloch Co. political action committee. I would like to detail to you what happened to one of our members at the hands of the Heart of Texas Hospital. Paulette Savage was a TPSG coordinator in charge of oversight of the Brady Budget. She was a tireless worker and had retired after many years of teaching in various public schools. She was 69 years old and unaware of any serious medical condition as she had no current physician.

On December 1, 2013 Paulette, who lived alone, drove to the Brady ER at midnight or slightly after. She was extremely ill and jaundiced. She was examined and then told to go home. Paulette, in front of witnesses stated that she wanted to be admitted to the hospital as she was too ill to go home. Her request was denied and one of the witnesses offered to drive her. Paulette asked the witness to follow her home which the witness did. (The witness fears retaliation against her and her family from the hospital administrator and staff so will not be identified herein.) Paulette later revealed all of this to me as did the witness.

Ms. Savage called Brady EMS Monday morning, December 2, 2013 and was transported to Brady Hospital. At that point Brady Hospital ordered her transferred to Shannon Hospital in San Angelo. I followed the ambulance to Shannon and stayed with Paulette, who had no family there, until Wednesday. Due to an ice storm I was unable to return. Paulette died of advanced liver cancer the following Tuesday, December 10, 2013. She never left the hospital. Paulette was not admitted to the Brady Hospital although she requested it and her death was imminent. She deserved better and suffered needlessly due to poor procedures and practices set by the local hospital.

I personally hope that if I ever need an ambulance that the Brady EMS will take me directly to the hospital in Fredericksburg and not the Brady hospital.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ann Chase". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mary Ann Chase