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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

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DATE : 12-6-07   BUILDING: Pavilions I through X

AREA(S) INSPECTED: Interior and Exterior Paints

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety has performed a number of surveys for the presence of lead-based paints (LBP) within many of the Pavilion buildings to date, utilizing a combination of paint chip analyses and an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) instrument. Generally, the results have shown the presence of lead on many of the exterior wooden trim materials, exterior metal gutters and downspouts, balcony floors and roofs, interior wooden trim materials, radiators, and some of the ceramic bathtub glazing materials. Not all Pavilions have been tested and only one of the buildings has been completely surveyed.

A representative number of the above described paints were tested and yielded a "positive" result, which means that at least one of the XRF readings of the type of paint in question contained lead above the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) action level of 1.0 mg/cm2, or a paint chip analysis yielded a result of at least 0.5% lead by weight, and are considered lead-based paints.

All wall and ceiling paints tested to date have showed "negative" (or "non-lead") results, but not all surfaces have been tested. All bathtub glazing materials have been found to be stable and in good condition. Under normal use of ceramic tubs and/or sinks, and provided they are not significantly disturbed (pulverized, sanded, etc.), it is extremely unlikely that the lead in the glazing would present any health risks.

Any paints in poor condition, described as exhibiting signs of peeling, chipping, or flaking, should be properly stabilized in accordance with Chapter 11 of the HUD guidelines entitled "Interim Controls".

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