

STATE FINISHES INVESTIGATION OF DRUG COUNSELING CENTER

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The state recently completed an investigation of Possibilities Unlimited, a Lexington drug rehabilitation and counseling center, a spokesman for the Cabinet for Human Resources said yesterday.

But Brad Hughes said the findings probably would not be made public because of the nature of the allegations against the program.

In May, George Ross, the program's director, and six other employees pleaded not guilty in Fayette District Court to misdemeanor charges of unlawful imprisonment in connection with their handling of participants in the program.

The charges stemmed from criminal complaints filed by parents of some of those enrolled in the program and by some of the participants.

The allegations leading to the charges contended that participants were held in locked rooms against their wills and sometimes were threatened with arrest or institutionalization if they left.

A jury trial is scheduled for Aug. 20.

When asked last night about the state's investigation, Ross said, "It would be highly unprofessional and inadvisable for me to make any comment at this point."

Hughes said officials from the Department of Social Services office in Lexington would meet with Anna Grace Day, the commissioner of the state Department of Social Services, later this week to discuss their findings.

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