

STRAIGHT INC. ORDERED TO CLOSE

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The state mental health department will not renew the licenses held by Straight Inc. -- Greater Washington, a private adolescent substance abuse treatment center in Springfield.

The department has ordered the program to close within 10 days. However, the state's licensing regulations give officials of Straight the option to appeal the agency's decision and ask for a hearing.

Because the program has the right to appeal, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services declined to disclose details of the licensing violations it said it found. The department did say its decision not to renew the program's license came after department inspectors, in announced and unannounced visits, found Straight Inc. did not comply with various regulations and a 1990 consent agreement.

The department also found that Straight Inc.' s corrective action plan, submitted Jan. 25, was unacceptable.

Straight Inc.' s licenses to operate a day support treatment program and a supported residential treatment program expired Dec. 31.<

MEMO: (ljc)

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