

STRAIGHT INC. CLOSES VIRGINIA OPERATION

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A St. Petersburg, Fla.-based private drug treatment center that faced allegations of patient abuse has closed its Virginia operation, the state agency that oversaw the program said Monday.

Straight Inc.'s Springfield office closed Friday. The program was to have a hearing on progress to correct Virginia licensing violations today.

Straight Inc. has used a variety of controversial mental and physical techniques to deter children from drugs. The program's philosophy includes breaking down patients' defenses about drug use, a process critics have said can be demeaning.

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