



# The Cambridge Hospital



1493 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 (617) 498-1000

October 30, 1995

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager  
City Hall  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy,

I am writing in response to City Council Order #61, dated 10/16/95 regarding losses and thefts of patient clothing and belongings. The safety and security of patient and staff belongings is an important value within the Cambridge Hospital Community Health Network. The goal is to have all belongings secure at the points of service within the network.

An assessment of the losses and thefts finds that most of the losses within the Hospital are in areas where usually many staff and visitors have access. The actions that are being taken are as follows:

- to purchase and install closed circuit TV cameras in high risk areas
- to require staff to keep doors locked and valuables locked in a desk or lockers.
- to implement a revised patient valuables policy that will focus on having family members take patient valuables home when patients are admitted. It will also focus on the movement of the patient within the network to better ensure valuables are moved along with the patient.
- application of the network to provide CORI (Criminal Offense Record Investigation) for all new employees to be hired will allow for better employee selection.
- for the protection of bikes outside of the Hospital a bike cage will be installed.
- Security officers will continue to arrest any offenders caught stealing, both staff and patients/visitors.

Please let me know of if you need any additional information regarding this matter.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

John O'Brien



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ROBERT W. HEALY  
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI  
Deputy City Manager

November 6, 1995

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 56, regarding a report on the losses and thefts of patient clothing and belongings, received from John G. O'Brien, CEO of the Cambridge Community Health Network.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

RWH/mec  
attachment

Consent Agenda #21

S 360

Relative to Awaiting Report Item  
Number Fifty-six, regarding a report  
on the losses and thefts of patient  
clothing and belongings at the Hospital.

*for original order see  
1995 City Manager  
Requests # 460.*

In City Council November 6, 1995

*Blanchard*