



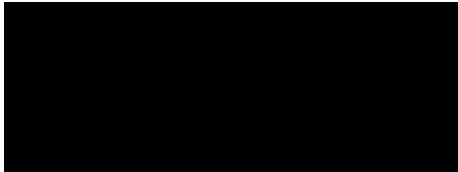
2022-003

STATE OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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July 1, 2022



Re: Bibb Medical Center

Dear [REDACTED]

On April 14, 2022, my Office received your petition regarding a possible violation of section 13A-11-61.3 of the Code of Alabama by Bibb Medical Center. Specifically, you alleged that firearms are unlawfully prohibited in Bibb Medical Center.

My Office's investigation determined that signs prohibiting firearms are posted at Bibb Medical Center. I asked the Bibb County Health Care Authority (operator of Bibb Medical Center) to explain its legal justification for prohibiting firearms. The Bibb County Health Care Authority responded that Bibb Medical Center is exempt from section 13A-11-61.3 of the Code because it provides inpatient care to patients with psychiatric, emotional, and mental disorders.

Section 13A-11-61.2(a)(3) of the Code authorizes the prohibition of firearms "[i]nside a *facility* which provides *inpatient* or custodial care of those with psychiatric, mental, or emotional disorders." ALA. CODE § 13A-11-61.2(a)(3) (2015) (emphasis added). A "facility" is defined as "something (as a *hospital*, machinery, plumbing) that is built, constructed, installed or established to perform some particular function or to serve or facilitate some particular end." *Facility*, Webster's Third New International Dictionary (2002) (emphasis added). Thus, because Bibb Medical Center provides inpatient care for psychiatric, mental, or emotional disorders, it may prohibit firearms throughout its facility. This firearms determination is consistent with this Office's prior firearms determination regarding the Huntsville Hospital Health System – Blackwell Medical Tower. AGO Firearms Determination 2018-004.

Because the Bibb Medical Center is compliant with Alabama law, I have determined that there is no further action required under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3.

A redacted copy of this letter will be posted to my Office's website, in furtherance of the statutory requirements under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3(f)(3).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Marshall
Attorney General

SM/RWS/as
3218115/182001