



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality
Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

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February 11, 2026

Crystal M. Bloom, Esq.
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Re: **Essential Services Finding**
Facility: MelroseWakefield Healthcare
Re: Closure of Inpatient Psychiatric Beds
Ref. #: VKB3-024

Dear Attorney Bloom:

On December 1, 2025, the Department of Public Health (the "Department") received a notice from you regarding MelroseWakefield Healthcare's (the "Hospital") intent to discontinue inpatient psychiatric services at MelroseWakefield Hospital in Melrose, MA, and Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford, MA. A public hearing was held via teleconference on January 29, 2026.

Following the hearing and review of information presented, the Department has determined, pursuant to 105 CMR 130.122(E), the Psychiatric Services the Hospital intends to close at MelroseWakefield Hospital and Lawrence Memorial Hospital are not necessary for preserving access and health status in the Hospital's service area. The Department based this finding on the pending opening of Tufts Medicine Behavioral Health Hospital, a 144-bed behavioral health hospital licensed by the Department of Mental Health, in Malden, MA.

Letter dated February 11, 2026
Re: MelroseWakefield Healthcare
Ref #: VKB3-024

Although the Hospital may proceed with its plans to close Psychiatric Services at MelroseWakefield Hospital and Lawrence Memorial Hospital on March 31, 2026, it is the Department's expectation that psychiatric patients will continue to receive care and transitional assistance prior being discharged to an appropriate setting.

Please notify the Department of the actual closure dates when they occur.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this process. If you have any questions, please contact Walter Mackie at Walter.Mackie@Mass.Gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Davis".

Stephen Davis
Director

cc: T. Smith, DPH
A. Sousa, DPH
J. Gagne, DPH
M. Callahan, DPH
T. McNamara, DPH