



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
Food and Drug Administration

M3562N

19900 MacArthur Blvd., Ste 300
Irvine, California 92612-2445
Telephone (949) 798-7600

WARNING LETTER

MAR 15 2000

Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Corrie Alvarez, Clinic Administrator
El Proyecto Del Barrio, Inc.
8902 Woodman Avenue
Arlerta, CA 91331

W/L 36-00
Inspection ID: 2020100003

Dear Ms. Alvarez:

We are writing to you because on 11/17/1999, your facility was inspected by a representative of the state of California, acting in behalf of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This inspection revealed a serious regulatory problem involving the mammography at your facility.

Under a United States Federal law, the Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) of 1992, your facility must meet specific requirements for mammography. These requirements help protect the health of women by assuring that a facility can perform quality mammography. The inspection revealed the following level 1 finding at your facility:

The system to communicate results is not adequate for site El Proyecto Del Barrio, Inc. because:

- **There is no system in place to provide timely medical reports**
- **There is no system in place to provide timely lay summaries**
- **There is no system in place to communicate serious or highly suggestive cases ASAP**

The specific problem noted above appeared on your MQSA Facility Inspection Report, which your facility received at the close of the inspection. This problem is identified as Level 1 because it identifies a failure to meet a significant MQSA requirement.

Because this condition may be symptomatic of serious underlying problems that could compromise the quality of mammography at your facility, it represents a violation of the law which may result in FDA taking regulatory action without further notice to you. These actions include, but are not limited to, placing your facility under a Directed Plan of Correction, charging your facility for the cost of on-site monitoring, assessing civil money penalties up to \$10,000 for each failure to substantially comply with, or each day of failure to substantially comply with, MQSA standards, suspension or revocation of your facility's FDA certificate, or obtaining a court injunction against performing further mammography.

In addition, your response should address the Level-2 findings that were listed on the inspection report provided to you at the close of the inspection. These Level-2 findings are:

1. **There is no written procedure for handling consumer complaints at site El Proyecto Del Barrio, Inc.**
2. **There is no written procedure for infection control at site El Proyecto Del Barrio, Inc.**
3. **Corrective action for a failing image score (before further exams) was not documented for unit 1, Bennett X-Ray Corp., 150G, room Mammo. Rm.**

It is necessary for you to act on this matter immediately. Please explain the following elements to this office in writing within fifteen (15) working days from the date you received this letter.

- The specific steps you have taken to correct all of the violations noted in this letter.
- Each step your facility is taking to prevent the recurrence of similar violations.
- Equipment settings (including technique factors), raw test data, and calculated final results, where appropriate.
- Sample records that demonstrate proper record keeping procedures, if the findings relate to quality control or other records (**Note: Patient names or identification should be deleted from any copies submitted**).

*this note is not applicable for letters which also address patient notification.

Please submit your response to:

Thomas L. Sawyer
Director, Compliance Branch
Food and Drug Administration
19900 MacArthur Boulevard, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92612-2445

Finally, you should understand that there are many FDA requirements pertaining to mammography. This letter pertains only to findings of your inspection and does not necessarily address other obligations you have under the law. You may obtain general information about all of FDA's requirements for mammography facilities by contacting the Mammography Quality Assurance Program, Food and Drug Administration, P.O. Box 6057, Columbia, MD 21045-6057 (1-800-838-7715) or through the Internet at <http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/dmgrp.html> <<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/dmgrp.html>>.

If you have more specific questions about mammography facility requirements, or about the content of this letter, please feel free to contact Beverly Thomas at (949) 798-7708 or Minh Phan at (949) 798-7711.

Sincerely yours,



James E. Kozick

Acting District Director