

AFFIDAVIT OF BONITA BEAN

I, Bonita Bean, being duly sworn, depose and say:

1. My name is Bonita Bean. I am currently the Department Head of Special Education Services at the Mattanawcook (?) Junior High School in Lincoln, Maine and I have been a teacher there for the past 11 years.

2. I worked at Pineland Center from 1971 – 1976, starting as a physical education teacher. I then became the department head of the Physical Education and Recreation Department.

3. In 1972 Pineland started a patient-employee program (similar to the current correspondent program)

4. I connected with a child I will refer to as “T” who was 10 years old at the time, weighed 35 pounds, and wore size 5 clothes.

5. Pineland provided housing for me, and I would take T to my place on the Pineland campus. He would just sit and look around as if he were so amazed at his surroundings versus living in an open dorm with beds set up like an army barracks.

6. In 1972 I started taking T off campus to my parent’s home on the weekends. I had to deal with him being constipated and would need to give him enemas at the beginning of the weekend. I understand he was required to follow a toileting schedule at Pineland with no consideration for his personal toileting needs, and it is my impression that his problems with constipation were a result of having to wait.

7. When he arrived at my parents’ home, he immediately wanted his Pineland clothes off. They never gave him a choice of clothes as the residents were given a rolled up bundle in the morning to wear for the day. I would take him back to Pineland after a weekend or vacation and he would just cry.

8. He wouldn’t get in the shower and was afraid of water. What I found out was that they gave gang showers at Pineland with a hose.

9. T would not hold his penis to urinate and would say “pinch”. He would also say a staff person’s name. I do not know whether his reaction came from an upsetting effort to toilet train him or some other event, but he never got over this in all my years with him.

EXHIBIT O

10. T left Pineland in 1977 to live in a foster home but we stayed connected. Pineland would not let T live with me because I was employed by them.

11. I left Pineland during 1977 and worked for the Bureau of Mental Retardation in the community. I then started pursuing the journey for T to come live with me. T moved in with me in June 1978. I had bought a home in 1975 where we spent our weekend time together from 1975-1977 and where we lived after he moved in with me.

12. When I took T to get a haircut he just screamed. He would say “J___ pull it”, referring to another resident of Pineland. It took several years for him to get over this experience.

13. When T became 18 I became his legal guardian. He passed away in 2001 at the age of 39.

14. At one point I was correspondent for another Class Member I will refer to as “L.S.” I understand that before she left Pineland, she was kept in a secluded room because of her behavior and all she could see was the firehouse and a flag through a very small window. After she left Pineland, she was obsessed with red, flags and fire trucks. L.S. has also passed away.

Dated this 6th day of November, 2009.

/s/ Bonita Bean

Bonita Bean

STATE OF MAINE
PENOBSCOT, ss:

November 6, 2009

Personally appeared the above-named Bonita Bean, and made oath that the foregoing statements by her are true and correct and are made on the basis of her personal knowledge, information and belief, and to the extent that statements are based on information and belief, she believes them to be true. Before me,

/s/ Rosemary H. Olsen

Attorney-at-Law/Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 11-3-16