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**AS COMPLIANCE DEADLINE PASSES, DENTON FACILITY AT ZERO COMPLIANCE
IN MANY CRITICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVISIONS**

DENTON, TX—According to the latest U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) monitoring report for the Denton State Supported Living Center (DSSLC) operated by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, the facility has reached a minimal 30 percent total compliance after four years of efforts to improve. The DSSLC remains out of compliance in 112 out of 171 areas of the settlement. The deadline for 100 percent compliance for this facility and all SSLCs in Texas was June 26, 2013.

The DOJ's current report on the DSSLC is alarming because after four years of efforts to improve, the facility has reached ZERO percent compliance in 10 of 20 major provision sections of the Settlement Agreement, including the following:

- At-Risk Individuals
- Communication
- Consent
- Dental Services
- Habilitation, Training, Education, and Skill Acquisition Programs
- Integrated Clinical Services
- Integrated Protection, Services, Treatment and Supports
- Medical Care
- Minimum Common Elements of Clinical Care
- Physical and Occupational Therapy

Additionally, the Denton SSLC has reached compliance in only ONE section of the following provision areas:

- Minimum Common Elements of Physical and Nutritional Management
- Quality Assurance
- Recordkeeping and General Plan Implementation

“If a prospective doctor or attorney incorrectly answered more than half of the questions on their licensing exam, no one would think twice about not allowing them to practice. And yet the state allows these digressing facilities to be responsible for the basic health and safety needs of a vulnerable population of people,” said Haley Turner, advocate supervisor for Disability Rights

Texas (DRTx), the federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities. “The deadline for 100 percent compliance has passed, and it causes us grave concern that all SSLCs in Texas are *still* significantly behind where they should be in improving the protections, supports and services they provide to individuals under their care.”

Visit <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/monitors/reports/index.html> for view the latest DOJ monitoring reports for SSLCs in Texas. For additional information on how all the state supported living centers are performing, visit the Disability Rights Texas onsite Press Room at www.disabilityrightstx.org/who-we-are/press-room/.

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Disability Rights Texas (formerly named Advocacy Inc.) is a nonprofit organization that protects and advances the legal, human and service rights of Texans with a broad range of disabilities. Disability Rights Texas is federally funded and designated as the protection and advocacy agency (P&A) for the state of Texas.