July 28, 2014

Q: With regard to the Residents’ Advisory Council, what are the facility’s restrictions/obligations?

A: Pursuant to Section 300.640 (click here), each licensed LTC facility shall establish a residents’ advisory council consisting of at least five resident members. If there are not five residents capable of functioning on the residents’ advisory council, as determined by the Interdisciplinary Team, residents' representatives shall take the place of the required number of residents. The administrator shall designate another member of the facility staff (staff coordinator), other than the administrator, to coordinate the establishment of, and render assistance to, the council. Each facility shall also develop and implement a plan for assuring a liaison with concerned individuals and groups in the local community.

No employee or affiliate of any facility shall be a member of any Resident Advisory Council. Such persons may attend to discuss interests or functions of the non-members when invited by a majority of the officers of the council.

The council shall meet at least once each month with the staff coordinator who shall provide assistance to the council in preparing and disseminating a report of each meeting to all residents, the administrator, and the staff.

The residents' advisory council may communicate to the administrator the opinions and concerns of the residents. The council shall review procedures for implementing resident rights and facility responsibilities and make recommendations for changes or additions which will strengthen the facility's policies and procedures as they affect residents' rights and facility responsibilities.