**Appendix E Discharge Dispute Process**

**Discharge Readiness Dispute Process for State Hospitals, CSBs, and DBHDS Central Office**

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| 1. The CSB shall notify the state hospital social work director (or designee), in writing, of their disagreement with the treatment team’s designation of the individual’s clinical readiness for discharge within three calendar days (72 hours) of receiving the discharge readiness notification.
2. The state hospital social work director (or designee) shall initiate a resolution effort to include a meeting with the state hospital and CSB staff at a higher level than the treatment team (including notification to the CSB executive director and state hospital director), as well as a representative from the Central Office Patient of Clinical Services. This meeting shall occur within one business day of receipt of the CSB’s written disagreement.
3. If the disagreement remains unresolved, the Central Office of Patient Clinical Services will immediately give a recommendation regarding the patient’s discharge readiness to the DBHDS Deputy Commissioner or Designee. The Deputy Commissioner or designee shall provide written notice of their decision regarding discharge to the CSB executive director and state hospital director.
4. During the dispute process outlined above, the CSB shall formulate a discharge plan that can be implemented within three business days if the decision is in support of clinical readiness for discharge.
5. Should the Commissioner determine that the individual is clinically ready for discharge and the CSB has not developed a discharge plan to implement immediately, then the discharge plan shall be developed by the Department and the Commissioner may take action in accordance with Virginia Code § 37.2-505(A)(3).
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