AMA DISCHARGE POLICY

Against Medical Advice (AMA) Discharges:

All clients have the right to self determination, to make their own choices regarding their treatment and to participate in their treatment to the degree they are willing and/or able. You may request to leave treatment prior to your scheduled date of discharge-which constitutes leaving against medical advice.

However, because we are responsible for you and your care while you are here, we have put certain policies into place for your and our protection. Under North Carolina State Law (GS122C-211) after your request to leave AMA, we have the right to hold you for evaluation of your safety to discharge. We are allowed a period of up to 72 hours after your request to perform our evaluation. In most cases, we are able to evaluate the medical and/or psychiatric factors related to safety within 48 hours of your request.

GS122C-211 (b) In 24 hour facilities the application shall acknowledge that the applicant may be held by the facility for a period of 72 hours after any written request for release that the applicant may make and shall acknowledge that the 24 hour facility may have the legal right to petition for Involuntary commitment of the applicant during that period.