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May 5, 2022
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Dear Dr. Greenspan

My name is Eric Caplan. I am a historian of psychiatry. I have previously written a book on the origins of psychotherapy in the United States. I am currently writing a book about the Osheroff v. Chestnut Lodge Case. While I can readily imagine what a painful episode this was in your life and understand your reluctance to discuss it, my hope is that you might consider my request to speak with you.

Over the past several months, I have acquired a trove of documents about the case – including all Court records, transcripts, depositions, hospital records, (even video of sworn testimony from the Health Arbitration Claims committee -- that preceded the Court cases). I also possess the Court records of the VA cases involving you, Dr. Tolkan, and Dr. Osheroff. Gathering these documents was no small feat. It took months of leg work and considerable persistence on my part.

As a result, I have in my possession several thousand pages of materials. You feature prominently in many of the documents. Hence my interest in speaking with you. While I certainly have more than enough material to write a book (or several), the documents I possess allow, at best, for only a partial reconstruction of such a complex story – the implications of which persist to this day with respect to the progress and practice of psychiatry, *which is my primary area of interest*. To fill in gaps and acquire the insight so critical to do justice to this chapter in the history of American psychiatry, I have begun interviewing many of the parties who played prominent roles in the case. During those discussions, your name has come up several times. Hence this note.

I'd be especially grateful for a chance to interview you. As I have no desire to be bound by the documents I possess and the forty-plus year recollections of others who may recall those events differently than you when I write about your role.

I live in Bethesda, MD but can easily meet with via Zoom or other video conferencing software that you may prefer. I am an extraordinarily careful and scrupulous scholar. I dot every i and cross every t. And will, of course, respect any and all of your confidences. As surely you realize you – as much as any other individual – possess a significant perspective on those painful and trying times.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warmest Regards,

Eric Caplan