

State dismisses NAACP civil-rights complaint against Spring Valley medical clinic

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SPRING VALLEY -□The New York state Division of Human Rights has dismissed the Spring Valley NAACP's discrimination complaint against the Ben Gilman Medical and Dental Clinic.

The state apparently found no probable cause to believe the Spring Valley clinic was engaged in discrimination.

The NAACP filed the complaint in September 2006, claiming among other things that the clinic's practice of closing on Saturdays to accommodate the Jewish Sabbath was discriminatory.

Roman P. Storzer, a lawyer for the clinic from the firm Storzer & Greene, said his clients were happy with the decision.

"They are very pleased with the outcome and they're looking forward to getting back to what they do best, which is serving the community," Storzer said today.

The Gilman clinic and a sister site in Monsey have been the focus of several prior complaints by community advocates who criticized the way reception staff treated non-English-speaking immigrants, the undocumented and the uninsured.

Read more about this story tomorrow in The Journal News.