Tooth Fairy

August 1, 1999 By Gabi Horn

PWAs went dental in Boston this spring after a federal judge ruled that dentist Guillermo Recinos violated the Americans With Disabilities Act by refusing to treat people with HIV. Recinos was ordered to pay a $60,000 fine and provide 105 free appointments to uninsured PWAs through the HIV Dental Ombudsman Program of the Boston Public Health Commission. At press time, Recinos had performed “about 10 cleanings” without a fuss, said the program’s director, Helene Bednarsh, who applauds the creative sentencing. “Everything seems to be going fine,” she said. “But it’s not like I’m his hall monitor—I don’t call every day and find out how many appointments he’s completed.”

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