

June 19, 2009

Mail Stop 3010

Mr. Richard A. Doyle, Jr.  
Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer  
Senior Housing Properties Trust  
400 Centre Street  
Newton, MA 02458

**Re: Senior Housing Properties Trust  
Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008  
Filed March 2, 2009  
File No. 001-15319**

Dear Mr. Doyle:

We have completed our review of your Form 10-K and related filings and do not, at this time, have any further comments.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Gordon  
Branch Chief