Physician Sample Letter

*Name of Individual* carries a diagnosis of dementia, which poses certain cognitive challenges and safety risks.

*NAME* has a history of wandering from safe environments, including a *YEAR* incident where *NAME* wandered from *LIST INCIDENT*. According to Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Wandering places individuals in harmful and potentially life-threatening situations—making this an important safety issue for individuals affected and their families and caregivers.

If given the opportunity, *NAME* will wander from safe environments. *NAME’S* wandering tendencies include goal-directed elopement, which means NAME may seek out items of interest, specifically roads and bodies of water.

It is for these reasons, and *NAME*’S history of elopement, that *NAME* now has a medical diagnosis of **Wandering In Diseases Classified Elsewhere** (ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code **Z91.83**). To ensure *NAME*’s safety, it is medically necessary that *NAME* have close and constant supervision at all times, and that proper safeguards are in place. Safeguards may include architectural barriers, alarms, and visual prompts.

A Functional Behavioral Assessment should be done to help identify root causes of *NAME*’s elopement behaviors. *NAME* must never be left unattended by any adult for any reason. Leaving *NAME* unattended poses serious safety and health risks to themselves and those around them.