

# Parents Sue Over Willowbrook

By MARK LIEBERMAN

Two lawsuits charging the administrators of the Willowbrook State School for the Mentally Retarded with creating, fostering and condoning "less than minimal standards of treatment" were filed in Brooklyn Federal Court yesterday.

The actions, naming Gov. Rockefeller, State Mental Hygiene Commissioner Alan Miller and Willowbrook director Jack Hammond, were filed by the New York Civil Liberties Union and the Legal Aid Society on behalf of two parents. The actions charged also that the constitutional rights of the patients have been violated.

### Seeks a Report

In Albany, Rockefeller ordered a newly created advisory panel to give "top priority" to an examination of conditions at the Staten Island institution.

Rockefeller asked the Development Disabilities Advisory Council to prepare a report in the program, facilities and needs of the school, which houses 5,000 mentally retarded persons.

The lawsuits filed in Brooklyn charged the defendants with promoting "widespread physical abuse, inhumane and destructive conditions, severe overcrowding and understaffing, involuntary servitude of inmates, extended solitary confinement and an al-

most total absence of therapeutic care."

The suits asked also that the state be required to set minimal standards and that the courts appoint a special federal panel to oversee compliance with these standards.

A counsel for the civil liberties group said Rockefeller was named as a defendant because of the job freeze he instituted in December 1970.



Alan Miller



Jack Hammond

Charged With Neglect

Named in Legal Actions