



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lieutenant Governor

www.nj.gov/health

MATTHEW D'ORIO
Acting Commissioner

February 26, 2010

Ronald Scull

Re: **Notice of Summary Suspension:
EMT-Basic Certification # 553812
Investigation Control # 10-C-005**

Dear Mr. Scull:

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (the Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of the Health Care Facilities Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2H-1, et seq., which was enacted, in part, to ensure that all hospital and related health care services rendered in the State of New Jersey are of the highest quality. As defined at N.J.S.A. 26:2H-2b, health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by basic life support (BLS) personnel. The Emergency Medical Services Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7, et seq., authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technician-Basics (EMT-Bs). In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMT-Bs and EMT-B candidates. See N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1, et seq.

On February 16, 2010, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received a news article from the Star Ledger of the same date. The article alleged that you were arrested and charged in the United States District Court for possession of child pornography. The OEMS opened an investigation in response to the information contained in the news article.

Further investigation revealed that on August 13, 2009 a search warrant was executed by Federal law enforcement officers at your residence where several computer hard drives were seized. Subsequent forensic examination revealed approximately 1000 images of what appeared to be child pornography as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(8). As a result, a criminal complaint was filed against you in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey by the United States Postal Service. The complaint alleges that on or about August 13, 2009,

in Union County, in the District of New Jersey, you did knowingly possess materials that contained at least three images of child pornography, which were produced using materials that were mailed, shipped, and transferred in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce, by any means, including a computer, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 2252A(a)(5)(B). You were arrested and charged accordingly.

N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(a) states that, "The Commissioner, or his or her designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT-Basic and/or EMT-Instructor certification when, in his or her opinion, the continued certification of that person poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare."

Because of the seriousness of the crime with which you have been charged, the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT-Basic constitutes an immediate and serious threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. **Therefore, your certification as an EMT-Basic is immediately suspended and shall remain suspended indefinitely.** You may not, under any circumstances, act in the capacity of or perform the duties of an EMT-Basic in New Jersey during this period of suspension. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.1(f), certification cards are the property of the Department and shall be immediately surrendered upon demand. You are hereby directed to immediately surrender your EMT-Basic certification card(s) to the OEMS, either by U.S. mail to the address on the first page of this Notice or by physical delivery to Department of Health and Senior Services, OEMS, John Fitch Way, Market and Warren Streets, 6th Floor, Trenton, NJ, 08611. The OEMS will continue to investigate this matter. You will be notified when the OEMS has completed its investigation, at which time you will be advised what action(s), if any, will be taken with respect to your EMT-Basic certification.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(a), you have the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services for an emergent hearing before the Office of Administrative Law to contest this summary suspension. If the summary suspension is upheld at the Office of Administrative Law, you have the right to apply for injunctive relief in the Superior Court of New Jersey. Your request for an emergent hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. Please include the control number 10-C-005 on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services
Office of Legal & Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 360, Room 805
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360
Attn: Ms. Michele Stark

Finally, please note that failure to submit a request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision, thereby negating any further appeal rights.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Samuel Stewart, Regulatory Officer, at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Karen Halupke in black ink.

Karen Halupke, RN, M.Ed.
Director
Emergency Medical Services

- c. David W. Gruber, Senior Assistant Commissioner
Joseph Tricarico, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
Samuel Stewart, Regulatory Officer
Chris Ryan, OEMS
Michele Stark, OL&RA
National Registry of EMTs

SENT VIA REGULAR U.S. MAIL AND
CERTIFIED MAIL # 32 5 158349
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED