



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

MIKIE SHERRILL
Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

DR. RAYNARD E. WASHINGTON
Commissioner

August 5, 2026

Darren Jacobs

Re: Notice of Proposed Denial of EMT Recognition
NREMT Number: E4161813
New Jersey EMS ID # 647806
Investigation Control # 24-0598

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

The New Jersey Department of Health (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-2(b), N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 to 20, and N.J.S.A. 26:2K-35 to 38, health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by Basic Life Support (BLS). In addition, the Emergency Medical Services Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 to 69, authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). In furtherance of the aforementioned statutory objectives, the Department adopted rules that govern the training, certification, and professional conduct of EMTs. See N.J.A.C. 8:40 and N.J.A.C. 8:40A.

On December 2, 2024, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) became aware of allegations that you deleted multiple patient care reports. The subsequent investigation revealed that while working for Cliffside Park Emergency Medical Services, you deleted seventeen (17) patient care reports. OEMS determined that your actions violated N.J.A.C. 8:40-3.6, which states that providers shall develop a patient care report each time patient contact is made. At that time, you had been practicing in New Jersey by virtue of the reciprocity rule, N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.3, which states that a provider who holds a certification from New York, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT), or a member state of the Atlantic EMS Council maintains status as an EMT in New Jersey. After concluding the investigation, OEMS issued a decision on February 2, 2026, denying recognition of your New York Division of EMS (NYDOEMS) certification as an EMT, thereby preventing you from practicing in New Jersey under N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.3, due to your rule violations. You did not appeal this decision. As a result, the denial of recognition of your NYDOEMS EMT status became final on March 4, 2026.

The Department then became aware that on February 20, 2026, you obtained EMT certification through the NREMT and began practicing as an EMT in New Jersey under this status, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.3.

Based on the Department's previous determination to no longer recognize your NYDOEMS EMT certification as an EMT in New Jersey, as set forth in its February 2, 2026 denial of your EMT recognition notice issued to you, the facts and conclusions of which are incorporated herein by reference, **the Department hereby proposes to deny recognition of your reciprocity status as an EMT afforded to you by your certification through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and all subsequent certifications obtained and applicable by way of N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.3(a).**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3, you may appeal to the Commissioner of the Department of Health to contest this proposed denial of recognition. Your request for a hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. Please include the control number **24-0598** on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health
Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance
P.O. Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

Failure to submit a written request for a hearing within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision, thereby rendering this action a Final Agency Decision. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Zachary Raab at (609) 633-7777 or via email at Zachary.Raab@doh.nj.gov.

Sincerely,



Candace Gardner, Paramedic
Director
Office of Emergency Medical Services

c: Daniel Kazar, Deputy Director of Operations, OEMS
Zachary Raab, Supervisor of Investigations, OEMS
Thomas Livecchi, Regulatory Officer, OEMS
Gabrielle Moitinho, Investigator, OEMS
Angela Kurkowski, Investigator, CIU
Michael Linehan, District Chief, New York State Department of Health

NREMT
File

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

