

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

www.nj.gov/health

JEFFREY A. BROWN Acting Commissioner

September 8, 2025

Jeremy Algarin

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

Re: Notice of Summary Suspension

EMS ID # 605438

Investigation Control # 25-0453

Dear Mr. Algarin:

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) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) personnel. 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) and Paramedics. In furtherance of the aforementioned statutory objectives, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification, and professional conduct of EMTs and Paramedics. (See N.J.A.C. 8:40-1.1 et seq. 8:40A-1.1. et seq., 8:41-1.1 et seq., and 8:41A-1.1 et seq.)

On August 6, 2025, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received notification that you may have committed a crime. Consistent with OEMS regulatory authority and policy, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to this notification.

Upon opening the investigation, the OEMS investigator confirmed that you are currently certified by the OEMS as an EMT and have been certified as an EMT since July 9, 2013, and licensed as a Paramedic since July 7, 2021. Further, the investigator confirmed that you were charged with the following under Complaint No. 0405 W 2025 000132 out of Berlin Borough, in Camden County, New Jersey:

1. Procession/Viewing less than 1,000 items of child sex exploitation/abuse in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(b)(ii);

- 2. Distribution of child porn/abuse in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(a)(i); and
- 3. Possession of child porn/abuse in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(a)(ii)

Specifically, you are alleged to have possessed and viewed digital images of children engaged in prohibited sexual acts by possessing items of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) on your cell phone. Furthermore, you are alleged to have sent CSAM via social media to other individuals.

As you are aware, EMTs and Paramedics must make important medical assessments and carry out appropriate medical interventions in difficult field locations for patients young and old, combative and docile. In order to effectively care for all patients, EMTs and Paramedics must exercise good judgment and treat patients with dignity and respect. They are entrusted by the public to be there in times of need. Thus, EMTs and Paramedics must trust each other and be trusted by police officers, firefighters, doctors, and other professionals. In short, EMTs and Paramedics must be law-abiding and must be trusted to care for all patients, including minors, in an appropriate, safe manner.

Based upon the foregoing, the Department has determined that your EMT certification must be summarily suspended. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2, "[t]he 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." Furthermore, N.J.A.C. 8:41A-5.2 states "[t]he Commissioner, or his or her designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT-Paramedic 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." The above alleged actions demonstrate not only poor judgment and a lack of trustworthiness but also pose a threat to vulnerable patients, namely children. The alleged behaviors and actions outlined in the charges above are incompatible with the duties of an EMT and Paramedic, and the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT and licensure as a Paramedic constitutes an immediate and serious threat to public health, safety, and welfare. Therefore, your certification as an EMT and license as a Paramedic are immediately suspended. You may not, under any circumstances, act in the capacity of, or perform the duties of, an EMT or Paramedic in New Jersey during this period of suspension.

In the interim, the OEMS will continue to investigate this matter. After OEMS completes its investigation and the charges against you have been resolved, you will be advised of what action, if any, the OEMS will take with respect to your EMT certification and Paramedic license.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3 and N.J.A.C. 8:41A-5.3, you may appeal to the

Commissioner of the Department of Health for emergency relief to contest this summary suspension. Your request for a 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 **25-0453** 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 emergency relief within 30 days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision to summarily suspend your EMT certification and Paramedic license pending completion of its investigation, thereby forfeiting all rights to emergency relief. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Daniel Kazar at (609) 633-7777 or via email at Daniel.Kazar@doh.nj.gov.

Sincerely,

Dana B Johnson

Dana Johnson, MPH, CHES

Assistant Commissioner

Disaster Preparedness, Resiliency and

Emergency Medical Services

c: Daniel Kazar, Program Manager, OEMS Christian Rios, Investigator, OEMS NREMT File

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