



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

PO BOX 360

TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

[www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

POONAM ALAIGH, MD, MSHCPM, FACP  
Commissioner

July 23, 2010

Haniel Lora

Re: **Notice of Summary Suspension:  
EMT-Basic Certification # 537383  
Investigation Control # 2010-238**

Dear Mr. Lora:

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 June 3, 2010, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received a news article from the Northjersey.com website. The article alleged that you were arrested and charged in Lyndhurst Municipal Court for theft and filing a false police report. Accordingly, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to the information contained in the news article.

Further investigation revealed that you eventually admitted to unlawful use of a bank card belonging to the Lyndhurst Volunteer Emergency Medical Services Squad. You used the card, entrusted to you as the Captain of the EMS squad, at automated teller machines, on at least eight (8) separate occasions, to withdraw \$5,160 of squad donations. When confronted by law enforcement officials you initially reported the card stolen. Only after being confronted with photographs showing you at the bank machines did you admit to the theft. Accordingly, you were arrested and charged.

Investigators from OEMS made several attempts to contact you by mail and phone to gather additional information, including a registered letter (7008 1140 0001 5588 9951) which the United States Post Office attempted to deliver on June 18, 2010, June 24, 2010 and again on July 6, 2010. The parcel was returned to OEMS marked "unclaimed". All other attempts at contact with you were equally unsuccessful.

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. Be further advised that if you act in the capacity of, or perform the duties of an EMT-Basic in New Jersey during this period of suspension, your actions will constitute impersonation of an EMT-Basic in violation of N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.4, and shall incur further penalties.

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. As such, 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, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Trenton, NJ, O8611.

In the interim, 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 of 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 **2010-298** 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 Ms. Jo-Bea Sciarrotta, Compliance Officer at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

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

- c. David W. Gruber, Senior Assistant Commissioner  
Jo-Bea Sciarrotta, Compliance Officer  
Michael Mooney, OEMS  
Michele Stark, OL&RA  
National Registry of EMTs

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