



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

February 26, 2020

Joseph Tringali

Re: **Notice of Proposed Revocation:
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification # 573966
Investigation Control # 2019-0130V**

Dear Mr. Tringali:

The New Jersey Department of Health (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-2(b), health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by basic life support personnel. In addition, the Emergency Medical Services Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 et seq., authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMTs and EMT candidates. See N.J.A.C. 8:40A, EMTs: Training and Certification.

On September 6, 2019, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received a notification that you were criminally charged with aggravated sexual assault. Consistent with its regulatory authority and OEMS policy, OEMS opened an investigation in response to this notification.

Upon opening the investigation, the OEMS investigator confirmed that you are currently certified as an EMT in New Jersey. Further, the investigator confirmed that you were charged with the following under Complaint No. W-2019-000199-1326 in Manalapan Township, New Jersey:

1. Aggravated sexual assault, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:14-2(a)(7).

Specifically, the complaint alleged that on or about September 1, 2019, you performed oral sex on a male victim while the victim was sleeping. Based upon this

information, OEMS determined that your continued certified as an EMT constituted an immediate and serious threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public. As such, on October 8, 2019, OEMS summarily suspended your EMT certification pending the resolution of the charges lodged against you and the completion of its investigation into this matter.

On January 21, 2020, it came to the Department's attention, and confirmed through a review of court documents, that you pled guilty to 3rd degree aggravated criminal sexual contact in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:14-3(a). You are scheduled for sentencing on April 24, 2020. OEMS has now completed its investigation and, for the reasons outlined below, has determined that your EMT certification should be revoked

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(b), the Commissioner, or his or her designee, may revoke the certification of an EMT for violation of any of the rules set forth in the rule chapter, including but not limited to:

12. Conviction of any crime.

24. Any other action deemed by the Department to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

As you are aware, EMTs work in unsupervised, two-person teams in order to respond effectively to emergencies. You should also be aware that neither member of the team works in a supervisory capacity. Rather, one team member drives the vehicle and the other is alone in the back of the ambulance providing emergency medical care to the patient. The provision of emergency care requires an EMT to have close, hands-on contact with vulnerable patients ranging from infants to senior citizens. Even more, EMTs must exercise good judgment, trust each other and be trusted by the public, police officers, fire fighters, doctors and other professionals. In short, to be effective, EMTs must be law-abiding and must be trusted to care for all patients in an appropriate, safe manner.

Your criminal conviction for aggravated criminal sexual contact demonstrates that you not only have poor judgment and a lack of trustworthiness, but that you pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare. Specifically, your actions were of a predatory nature and you took advantage of a person for your own gratification. Such behaviors and actions are incompatible with the duties of an EMT and pose a threat to vulnerable patients. **Therefore, as a result of this investigation, it is the intention of the Department to revoke your EMT certification.**

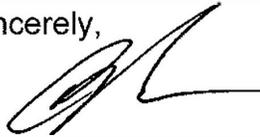
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-11 and N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(b), you may request a hearing before the Office of Administrative Law to contest this Department's decision to revoke your EMT certification. Your request for a hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. **As for your EMT certification, you are reminded that you remain under a summary suspension and, as a result, are PROHIBITED from acting in the capacity of an EMT.** If you wish to request a hearing, please include the control number 2019-

0130V on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department
Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance
P.O. Box 360, Room 805
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

Failure to submit a written request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision to revoke your EMT certification, thereby, negating any further appeal rights and converting this action into a final agency decision. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Hicken, Chief of Operation and Enforcement, at (609) 633-7777 or via email at Eric.Hicken@doh.nj.gov.

Sincerely,



Christopher Neuwirth, MA, MEP, CBCP, CEM
Assistance Commissioner
PHILEP Division

CC: Terry Clancy, Acting Director, OEMS
Eric Hicken, Chief of Licensing, Inspection and Enforcement
James Sweeney, Investigator

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