

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO BOX 358 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358

www.nj.gov/health

KAITLAN BASTON, MD, MSc, DFASAM Commissioner

November 4, 2024

Notice of Revocation

of Nurse Aide Certification

Guerlande Momperousse

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor



Dear Ms. Momperousse:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under authority of federal law, imposes a requirement on state governments to ensure that nurse aides have the education and clinical skills necessary to care for residents of long-term care facilities. See 42 C.F.R. Part 483. Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. 483.156 and N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.7, the State of New Jersey maintains a nurse aide registry (registry), which contains all substantiated findings by the State of resident abuse, resident neglect, or misappropriation of resident property by a certified nurse aide.

Woodcliff Lake Rehabilitation Center reported to the Department of Health (Department) that substantial credible evidence existed to substantiate that you struck a resident on July 11, 2023, while you were employed at the facility as a certified nurse aide. After investigating the incident, on January 3, 2024, the Department notified you of its intent to revoke your nurse aide certification and to enter a finding of abuse next to your name on the New Jersey Nurse Aide Registry. You requested a hearing, and, on May 10, 2024, and June 10, 2024, the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law conducted a hearing to determine if you abused a resident while employed at the above facility. On August 26, 2024, Administrative Law Judge JoAnn LaSala Candido issued an Initial Decision affirming the Department's decision to revoke your nurse aide certification. On October 4, 2024, the Commissioner of the Department issued a Final Agency Decision adopting the administrative law judge's initial decision.

Therefore, in accordance with 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 483.156(c)(iv), please be advised that the finding of abuse was included next to your name on the registry on October 28, 2024. The finding of abuse will remain on the registry <u>permanently</u>, and your nurse aide certification is revoked. Pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-43.1(a)(1), only individuals who maintain a currently valid nurse aide certificate and are registered in good standing on the registry are considered by the Department to be competent to work as a nurse aide in a licensed long-term care facility, assisted living facility and other licensed health care facility or agency. A certified nurse aide is no longer registered in good standing if a finding of abuse or neglect by the certified nurse aide is included on the registry. Therefore, you are prohibited from employment as a certified nurse aide

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and from caring for residents and patients in a licensed long-term care facility, assisted living facility or other licensed health care facility or agency.

In accordance with 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 483.156 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-43.7, you are entitled to submit a written statement contesting the findings noted above. This statement will be maintained on the registry. If you wish to submit such a written statement, you must do so within 20 days of the date of this letter. Your letter should reference "Notice of Revocation of Nurse Aide Certificate: Contested Findings." Please forward this statement to the address below. In addition, please surrender your nurse aide certificate and nurse aide wallet card to:

Office of Program Compliance-Reporting 120 S. Stockton Street P O Box 358 Trenton, NJ 08625-0358

The certificate and the wallet card are no longer valid.

Sincerely,

Lisa King, Program Manager Office of Program Compliance

Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing

LK:JLM:nj c: Brittney L. Grieves, Esquire (by regular mail) Certified Mail: Return Receipt Requested US First Class Mail