



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PO BOX 358  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

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

CATHLEEN D. BENNETT  
*Commissioner*

: Notice of Revocation  
: of Nurse Aide Certification

John T. Somohano, Esq.  
Bastamika G & S, LLP  
434 21<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Paterson, N.J. 07513

Re: Lucia Vasquez-Nunez

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 (42 CFR Part 483, et al.) to ensure that nurse aides have the education and clinical skills necessary to care for residents of long term care facilities. These regulations also require that each State maintain a nurse aide registry, which, pursuant to 42 CFR 483.156(c)(iv), must contain all substantiated findings by the State of resident abuse, resident neglect, or misappropriation of resident property by a certified nurse aide.

The Certification Program of the New Jersey State Department of Health (Department) was notified of the results of an investigation conducted by a representative of Preakness Healthcare Center in which sufficient information was obtained to substantiate charges of abuse committed by you on December 2, 2015, while you were employed at Preakness Healthcare Center.

Subsequently, on January 18 and January 25, 2017, a hearing was conducted to determine if you abused a resident while employed at the above facility. On April 3, 2017, the Administrative Law Judge, John P. Scollo, concluded that you did commit an act of abuse and as such a finding of abuse should be placed next to your name on the registry. This decision was affirmed and adopted by the Commissioner of the Department of Health on May 15, 2017 and as such constitutes a Final Agency Decision.

Therefore, in accordance with 42 CFR 483.156(c)(iv)(D), please be advised that this information was included on the registry on May 18, 2017, and will remain on the registry permanently, unless the finding was made in error.

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Please surrender your nurse aide certificate and nurse aide wallet card to:

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

The certificate and the wallet card are no longer valid.

Please be advised that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.1 et seq. 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 finding of abuse next to your name on the registry removes a certified nurse aide from the status of good standing and therefore, as long as a finding of abuse next to your name remains on the registry, you are prohibited from employment as a certified nurse aide in a licensed long term care facility, assisted living facility or other licensed health care facility or agency.

In accordance with the aforementioned regulations, 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 along with your certificate and your wallet card to Lisa King at the address listed above.

Sincerely,



Lisa King, Program Manager  
Program Compliance and Health Care Financing  
Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing

JC/jn  
DATE: May 19, 2017  
UPS Tracking # 1Z F08 89A 01 9899 1645