



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PO BOX 358  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358  
[www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
Lt. Governor

SHEREEF M. ELNAHAL, MD, MBA  
Commissioner

Notice of Revocation of  
Medication Aide Certification  
ME: 200003694  
OPC No: 16-055

Maritza Nobles

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. These regulations also require that each State maintain a nurse aide Registry, which, pursuant to 42 CFR 483.156(c)(1)(iv), must contain all substantiated findings by the State of resident mistreatment, abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of resident property by a certified nurse aide and or certified medication aide.

The Certification Program of the New Jersey State Department of Health ("Department") was notified of the results of an investigation in which sufficient information was obtained, that you were accused of misappropriation of resident property, of a nursing home resident which occurred on or about December 23, 2015, while you were employed as a certified medication aide at Lutheran Crossings Enhanced Living, in Moorestown, New Jersey.

Specifically, it is alleged that on December 23, 2015, you misappropriated the property of a vulnerable resident entrusted to your care and were charged with credit card theft: N.J.S.A. 2C:21-6(c)(1) and unlawful taking: N.J.S.A. 2C:21-6(H) (a fourth-degree crime).

On March 1, 2016, you were sent an Order of Summary Suspension notifying you that your medication aide certification was no longer valid. In addition, because you were certified as a home health aide under the jurisdiction of The Department of Consumer Affairs/Board of Nursing, their office was also notified of these charges. The Department of Health received notice of disciplinary action taken by the Department of Consumer Affairs against your home health aide certification in relation to the charges set forth above.

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The Order of Summary Suspension sent by the Department indicated that you had 30 days to request a hearing to contest the charges against you. This office received no such request within the prescribed time. On July 28, 2016, the Department sent you a Notice of Right to Hearing and on August 11, 2016, the Department received your request for a hearing.

On August 29, 2016, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law and on July 13, 2017, both parties requested that the matter be placed on the inactive list for a period of nine months while you served your Pre-Trial Intervention ("PTI"), which expired in April 2018.

On April 20, 2018, Judge Sarah G. Crowley from the Office of Administrative Law notified you that a prehearing conference with you, and representatives from the Department of Health, was scheduled for June 4, 2018. On April 27, 2018, the Department spoke to you and discussed the outcome of the PTI, the status of your expired medication aide certification and the disciplinary action taken against your home health aide certification by the Board of Nursing. Further attempts were made by this Department to contact you prior to the June 4, 2018 hearing conference and were unsuccessful.

The matter was scheduled on June 4, 2018 at the Office of Administrative Law before Judge Sarah G. Crowley and you failed to appear. Subsequently, on June 8, 2018, the file was returned to the Department and marked "Failure to Appear." A Notice of Failure to Appear was sent to you and indicated the Department must receive an explanation within 13 days of the Notice. Neither the Office of Legal and Regulatory Compliance, nor The Department of Health received an explanation.

Therefore, in accordance with 42 CFR 483.156(c)(1)(iv), please be advised that a finding of misappropriation of resident property, will be placed next to your name on the Registry on June 21, 2018, and will remain on the Registry permanently.

**Please surrender your medication aide certificate and wallet card to:**

Office of Program Compliance-Reporting  
25 South Stockton Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
PO Box 358  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0358

**Please advised that your medication aide certification expired on September 9, 2017 and the certificate and the wallet card are no longer valid and the status of your medication aide certification is now revoked.**

Please be advised that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.1(a)(1), only individuals who maintain a currently valid nurse aide certificate and/or home health aide certification are

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registered in good standing on the Registry are considered by the Department to be competent to work as a medication aide in a licensed long term care facility. As with a certified nurse aide, a medication aide is no longer registered in good standing if a finding of abuse, neglect or misappropriation is included on the Registry. Therefore, if a finding of misappropriation of resident property remains next to your name on the Registry, you are prohibited from employment as a medication aide and/or a certified nurse aide in a licensed long term care facility.

In accordance with 42 C.F.R. 483.156 and N.J.A.C. 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 Office of Program Compliance-Reporting along with your medication aide certification and your wallet card to the address listed above.

Sincerely,



Lisa King, Regulatory Officer  
Office of Program Compliance  
Division of Certificate of Need and  
Licensing  
New Jersey Department of Health

LK/sld  
DATE: June 22, 2108  
Certified Mail: 7009 1680 0002 1239 0477  
US FIRST CLASS MAIL