

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

www.nj.gov/health

Governor
Sheila Y. Oliver
Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA Commissioner

September 16, 2021

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RRR and REGULAR MAIL

Deasha Brown

Re: Notice of Revocation of Nurse Aide Certification Certification No.: NA200031792

OPC No.: 21-13491

Dear Ms. Brown:

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 C.F.R. 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.

The Certification Program of the New Jersey State Department of Health (Department) was notified of the results of an investigation in which there was sufficient information that you abused a vulnerable elderly person.

Specifically, on or about March 8, 2021, after the review of the facility's video, Bridgeton Police charged you with assault of an institutionalized elderly person in violation of N.J.S.A. § 2C:12:12-1d, related to a resident at South Jersey Extended Care in Bridgeton, New Jersey where you worked as a Certified Nurse Aide. Your actions were willful and constitute abuse in accordance with the federal definitions under 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 483.5.

On May 24, 2021, a letter and an Order of Summary Suspension was sent to the address of record on the New Jersey Nurse Aide Registry (Registry) by United Parcel Service (UPS) and first-class mail. On May 29, 2021 UPS returned the parcel marked "moved not delivered." The letter and Summary Suspension Order indicated that you had thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the notice to request an expedited hearing.

Subsequently, on July 7, 2021, you were sent a Notice of Right to Hearing letter via certified and regular mail, advising you of the Department's intent to place a finding of abuse next to your name on the New Jersey Nurse Aide Registry (Registry), and to

revoke your certification. At that time, you were notified that you had 30 days to request a hearing to contest the charge against you. This office received no hearing request within the prescribed time.

The Department placed a call to the number listed for you in the PSI license management database, that you are required to update with any changes in contact information, on September 15, 2021. The Department received a message that the call could not be completed as dialed.

Therefore, in accordance with 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 483.156(c)(1)(iv), please be advised that a finding of abuse will be placed next to your name on the Registry on September 16, 2021 and will remain on the Registry permanently. Please also be advised that your certification is revoked.

Please surrender your nurse aide certificate and wallet card to:

Office of Program Compliance-Reporting 120 South Stockton Street, 3rd Floor PO Box 358 Trenton, NJ 08625-0358

The certificate and the wallet card are no longer valid, and the status of your nurse 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 are registered in good standing on the Registry are considered by the Department to be competent to work as a certified nurse aide in a licensed long term care facility. A certified nurse aide is no longer registered in good standing if a finding of abuse, neglect or misappropriation by the certified nurse aide's name is included on the Registry. Therefore, you are prohibited from employment as a certified nurse aide when a finding of Abuse remains next to your name on the Registry.

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 Office of Program Compliance-Reporting along with your nurse aide certification and your nurse aide wallet card to the address listed in this letter.

Sincerely,

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

LK:mdj
Date: September 16, 2021
CERTIFIED MAIL:
Return Receipt Requested
US FIRST CLASS MAIL