



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

RICHARD J. CODEY
Acting Governor

PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

FRED M. JACOBS, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

www.nj.gov/health

August 5, 2005

Mr. George Rossi, Jr.

Re: **Notice of Summary Suspension:**
EMT-Basic Certification/EMT-Paramedic Certification #826
EMT-Basic Instructor Certification
Investigation Control # 05-C-043

Dear Mr. Rossi:

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (the Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7, et seq., which govern the provision of advanced life support services within the State of New Jersey and 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-2b, health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by paramedical and ambulance services. These laws establish a scheme that permits certain individuals, once certified, to perform basic life support (BLS) and/or advanced life support (ALS) services. In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted administrative rules that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMT-Basics, EMT-Basic Instructors and EMT-Paramedics. See N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1, et seq. and N.J.A.C. 8:41A-1.1, et seq.

On June 3, 2005, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received a report that you were arrested and charged with criminal sexual contact upon a victim who was at least 16 years old but less than 18 years old and two counts of harassment in Essex County, New Jersey. On June 6, 2005, OEMS confirmed with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) Police Department that you were being charged with criminal sexual contact in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:14-3b, harassment by touching, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:33-4b, and harassment by engaging in a course of alarming conduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:33-4c. OEMS' subsequent investigation revealed that the charges arose from the following

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allegations: During the course of your duties as an EMT-Basic Instructor, you reportedly touched N.R., a female student in your class, on the buttocks with your right pointer finger. In addition, you allegedly placed your left hand on the lower back of N.R. while placing your right hand on her head and kissing her on the cheek.

In accordance with OEMS policy, Department staff attempted to schedule an appointment with you to discuss these charges. After many attempts to contact you, OEMS staff was advised by your attorney on or about July 28, 2005 that you were not going to discuss the facts giving rise to the criminal charges against you with OEMS representatives.

N.J.A.C. 8:41A-5.2(a), states that, "The Commissioner, or his or her designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT-Paramedic certification when, in his or her opinion, the continued certification of that person poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare."

N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(a) states that, "The Commissioner, or his or her designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT-Basic and/or EMT-Instructor certification when, in his or her opinion, the continued certification of that person poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety or welfare."

Because of the seriousness of the charges levied against you, the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT-Paramedic, EMT-Basic and EMT-Basic Instructor constitutes an immediate or serious threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. **Therefore, your certification as an EMT-Paramedic, EMT-Basic and EMT-Basic Instructor is immediately suspended and shall remain suspended pending a full OEMS investigation into this matter.** You may not, under any circumstances, act in the capacity of or perform the duties of an EMT-Paramedic, EMT-Basic or EMT-Basic Instructor in New Jersey during this period of suspension. You will be notified when OEMS has completed its investigation into this matter, at which time you will be advised what action(s), if any, will be taken with respect to your EMT-Paramedic, EMT-Basic and EMT-Basic Instructor certification.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:41A-5.3(a) and N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(a), you have the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services for an emergent hearing before the Office of Administrative Law to contest this summary suspension. If the summary suspension is upheld at the Office of Administrative Law, you have the right to apply for injunctive relief in the Superior Court of New Jersey. Your request for an emergent hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. Please include the control number 05-C-043 on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services
Office of Legal & Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 360, Room 805
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360
Attn: Ms. Michele Stark

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Samuel Stewart, OEMS Regulatory Officer, at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

By:


Samuel Stewart for
Karen Halupke, RN, M. Ed.
Director
Office of Emergency Medical Services

c:

National Registry of EMTs
David Gruber, Assistant Commissioner
Ruth Charbonneau, Director, OLRA
Michele Stark, OLRA
Samuel Stewart, Esq., OEMS
Charles McSweeney, OEMS
Donald Roberts, OEMS

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