



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PO BOX 360  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
Lt. Governor

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

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA  
Commissioner

March 15, 2021

Mr. John Flinn

**Re: Notice of Proposed Revocation  
EMS ID # 565160  
Investigation Control # 2021-0036V**

Dear Mr. Flinn:

The New Jersey Department of Health (Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of the Health Care Facilities Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2H-1 to -27, 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-2(b), health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by Basic Life Support (BLS) personnel. In addition, the Emergency Medical Services Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 to -69, authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMTs and EMT candidates. See N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1 et. seq.

On January 26, 2021, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received notification that you may have been convicted of a crime. Consistent with OEMS regulatory authority and policy, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to this notification.

Upon opening the investigation, the OEMS investigator confirmed that you have been certified as an EMT since May 7, 2007. The investigator found that on or about April 6, 2018, you were charged with simple assault in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1(a). Specifically, on March 8, 2018, while you were working in your capacity as a police officer, you allegedly struck a minor twice while attempting to restrain her. Bodycam footage made publicly available after the incident showed the victim lying prostrate with both of her hands behind her back. While you were attempting to handcuff the girl, you hit her twice on the right side of her head then forcibly shoved her head further down. You then placed your left knee on her back while the minor cried out.

Court records indicate on March 11, 2020, you were convicted in Camden County of two counts of Official Misconduct in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-2(a). As of the date of this correspondence, you are still awaiting sentencing from the court.

As you are aware, EMTs must make important medical assessments and carry out appropriate medical interventions in difficult field locations for patients young and old, combative and docile. In order to effectively care for all patients, EMTs must exercise good judgment and treat patients with dignity and respect. They are entrusted by the public to be there in times of need. Thus, EMTs must trust each other and be trusted by police officers, fire fighters, doctors and other professionals. In short, EMTs must be law-abiding and must be trusted to care for all patients in an appropriate, safe manner.

N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(b) provides that, "[t]he Commissioner, or his or her designee, may issue a formal written warning, impose a monetary penalty, place on probation, suspend, revoke and/or refuse to issue or renew the certification of any EMT or EMT-Instructor for violation of any of the rules set forth in this chapter. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ...
- 12. Conviction of any crime
- ...
- 24. Any other action deemed by the Department to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare."

Based upon the foregoing, the Department has determined that your EMT certification must be **revoked**. The above actions resulting in your criminal conviction demonstrate that you not only have poor judgement and a lack of trustworthiness, but that you pose a threat to vulnerable patients. These behaviors and actions are incompatible with the duties of an EMT and the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT constitutes a serious threat to public health, safety, and welfare. **Therefore, as a result of this investigation, it is the intention of the Department to revoke your EMT certification. You are prohibited from attending any New Jersey EMT programs to gain certification in the future.**

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.1(f), certification cards are the property of the Department and shall be immediately surrendered upon demand. You are hereby directed to immediately surrender your EMT certification card(s) to the OEMS, either by sending via United States Postal Service First Class Mail, to the address on the first page of this Notice, or via physical delivery to:

New Jersey Department of Health  
Office of Emergency Medical Services  
55 North Willow Street  
Trenton, NJ, 08618

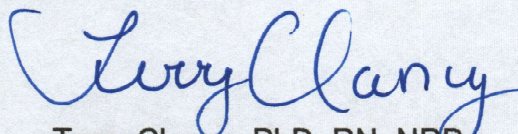
Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-11 and N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(b), you may request a hearing before the Office of Administrative Law to contest this Department's decision to

revoke your EMT certification. Your request for a hearing on this matter must be submitted in writing and must be accompanied by a response to the charges contained herein. In the event that you request a hearing, the revocation will be held in abeyance until such time as the hearing has been concluded and a final decision rendered. Please include the control number **2021-0036V** on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health  
Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance  
P.O. Box 360  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

Failure to submit a written request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision to revoke your EMT certification, thereby, negating any further appeal rights and converting this action into a final agency decision. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Investigator Zak Raab at (609) 633-7777 or via email at zachary.raab@doh.nj.gov.

Sincerely,



Terry Clancy, PhD, RN, NRP  
Director  
Office of Emergency Medical Services

c: Eric Hicken, Chief, Licensing Inspection and Enforcement, OEMS  
Zak Raab, Investigator, OEMS  
NREMT  
File

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