

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor SHEILA Y. OLIVER

Lt. Governor

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PO BOX 360 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA Commissioner

September 21, 2021

Brandon Anderson

Re: Notice of Summary Suspension Investigation Control # 2021-0115V EMS ID # 637691

Dear Mr. Anderson:

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 April 26, 2021, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received notification that you were charged with a crime involving a vehicle. 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 are currently certified as an EMT. Specifically, you have been certified as an EMT since May 15, 2019. Further, the investigator confirmed that you were charged under Complaint No. S 0516 2020 000058 in Woodbine Borough, New Jersey, with the following:

- 1. Three counts of endangering the welfare of children in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4(a)(2);
- 2. Harassment in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:33-4; and
- 3. Terroristic threats in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-3(b).

Specifically, it is alleged that you were operating a vehicle erratically in an attempt to run over the victim or cause the victim to fear being run over and threatened to kill the victim by slitting the his/her throat, while a minor was in the vehicle. Additionally, it is alleged you aggressively threw a large bowl at a minor during an extremely hostile verbal argument. Furthermore, it was confirmed you were indicted under indictment number 21-06-00477-I on June 15, 2021, on three counts of endangering the welfare of children and one count of terrorist threats.

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, firefighters, 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.

Based upon the foregoing, the Department has determined that your EMT certification must be **summarily suspended**. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2, "[t]he 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." The above alleged actions demonstrate not only poor judgment and a lack of trustworthiness, but pose a threat to vulnerable patients. These alleged behaviors and actions are incompatible with the duties of an EMT and, as a result, the Department finds that your continued certification as an EMT constitutes an immediate and serious threat to public health, safety, and welfare. **Therefore, your certification as an EMT is immediately suspended. You may not, under any circumstances, act in the capacity of, or perform the duties of an EMT in New Jersey during this period of suspension.**

In the interim, the OEMS will continue to investigate this matter and monitor the progression of your criminal case. After the OEMS completes its investigation and the charges against you have been resolved, you will be advised of what action, if any, the OEMS will take with respect to your EMT certification.

In accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 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, by sending via United States Postal Service First Class Mail, to:

New Jersey Department of Health Office of Emergency Medical Services PO Box 360 Trenton, NJ 08625-0360 Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3, you may appeal to the Commissioner of the Department of Health for emergency relief to contest this summary suspension. 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. Please include the control number **2021-0115V** 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 emergency relief within 30 days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of this Department's decision to summarily suspend your EMT certification pending completion of its investigation, thereby forfeiting all rights to emergency relief. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact 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: Candace Gardner, Program Manager, OEMS
Eric Hicken, Chief, Licensing, Inspection and Enforcement, OEMS
Dan Kazar, Acting Chief, Clinical Education & Licensure, OEMS
Zak Raab, Investigator, OEMS
NREMT
File

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