

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Governor
SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

www.nj.gov/health

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA Acting Commissioner

November 18, 2019

Mac Quenor

Re: Notice of Summary Suspension:

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification # 622971

Investigation Control # 2019-0155V

Dear Mr. Quenor:

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 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-2(b), health care services include any pre-hospital care rendered by basic life support personnel. In addition, the Emergency Medical Services Act, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 et seq., 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, EMTs: Training and Certification.

On October 18, 2019, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received a notification that you were criminally charged with a narcotics-related offense. Consistent with its regulatory authority and OEMS policy, 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 in New Jersey. Further, the investigator confirmed that you were charged with the following under Complaint No. S-2019-000643-0702 in Bloomfield Township, New Jersey:

1. Three counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10(a)(1).

Specifically, the complaint alleged that on or about October 16, 2019, you were observed by police making a suspected illegal narcotics transaction with a known drug dealer. You were wearing your EMT jacket and operating an ambulance at the time of the transaction. After a traffic stop of your ambulance, police found you were in possession of one Xanax tablet, four Oxycodone tablets, and four Amphetamine tablets.

As you are aware, EMTs are placed in a position of trust by the general public. They must work in two-person teams to respond effectively to emergencies and must make important medical assessments and carry out appropriate medical interventions at motor vehicle accidents, in people's homes, and at other difficult field locations. In order to be effective, EMTs must exercise good judgment, trust each other and be trusted by police officers, fire fighters, doctors and other professionals. In short, EMTs must be lawabiding and trustworthy.

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(a), "the Commissioner, or his designee, may summarily suspend a person's EMT 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 you have been charged with a serious crime, the nature of which is not only indicative of poor judgment and lack of trustworthiness but also evidences that you pose a threat to vulnerable patients, 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, OEMS will continue to investigate this matter and monitor the progression of your criminal case. After OEMS completes its investigation and the charges against you have been resolved, you will be advised of what action(s), if any, OEMS will take with respect to your EMT certification.

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 Department of Health, OEMS, John Fitch Way, Market and Warren Streets, Trenton, NJ, O8611.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(a), 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 2019-0155V on your correspondence, and forward your request to:

New Jersey Department of Health Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance P.O. Box 360, Room 805 Trenton, NJ 08625-0360 Attn: Ms. Tami Roach

Failure to submit a written request for emergency relief within thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice shall be deemed 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 Timothy Seplaki at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

Christopher Neuwirth, MA, MEP, CBCP, CEM

Assistance Commissioner

PHILEP Division

CC: Scot Phelps, JD, MPH, Paramedic, Director, OEMS Eric Hicken, OEMS James Sweeney, OEMS Tami Roach, OLRC

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