



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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MIKIE SHERRILL
Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
Lt. Governor

www.nj.gov/health

DR. RAYNARD E. WASHINGTON
Acting Commissioner

February 6, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC, FEDEX NEXT DAY DELIVERY, and REGULAR MAIL

John Greene, PhD, Laboratory Director
Dr. Dharam P. Mann, Laboratory Owner
Garden State Medical Center, Laboratory
100 Route 36
West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764

**Re: Notice of Penalty Assessment
Control No. 2026-CLIS9043GSMC-01**

Dear Drs. Mann and Greene:

The New Jersey Department of Health (Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of the New Jersey Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act, N.J.S.A. 45:9-42.26 et seq. (Act), which was enacted in part to ensure that clinical laboratories in New Jersey are of highest quality. To this end, the Act grants the Commissioner of Health the power to license clinical laboratories in this State and to prescribe standards for the operation of these laboratories. As such, in furtherance of each of the aforementioned statutory objectives, the Department adopted rules that govern the licensure and inspection of clinical laboratories. Those rules are set forth in their entirety at N.J.A.C. 8:44.

The Department is issuing this Notice of Penalty Assessment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-42.43, after determining that Garden State Medical Center Laboratory (Laboratory) is in violation of N.J.A.C. 8:44-2.7(a), (b), and (i)1, because the Laboratory was unable to produce the raw data to substantiate patient urine toxicology results conducted over several months.

On November 20, 2025 inspectors from the Department's Clinical Laboratory Improvement Services (CLIS) conducted an unannounced onsite inspection of the Laboratory, located at 100 Route 36, West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764. The inspection revealed numerous deficiencies, detailed under separate cover which is incorporated by reference to this penalty assessment letter, including failure of the laboratory director to adequately monitor operation of the laboratory and failure of the laboratory to perform proficiency testing and provide documentation evidencing employee training.

Of particular note, the inspection revealed that the Laboratory failed to produce raw data to substantiate 1,950 patient urine toxicology results from testing performed from December 31, 2024 through November, 14, 2025, thereby making it impossible for Laboratory personnel to

substantiate or confirm the accuracy of the drug screening and drug confirmation values as reported on patient test reports. The inspectors reviewed Laboratory records and interviewed Laboratory personnel who stated that the raw data was unavailable due to the persistent failure of a computer hard drive.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-42.43, the Commissioner of Health may assess a monetary penalty of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 for each violation of any provision of the Act or of any rule adopted thereunder. The penalty shall be collected and enforced in summary proceedings under the penalty enforcement law (N.J.S.A. 2A:58-1 et seq.). The cited violations demonstrate a failure to comply with the Act and the Department's rules. Indeed, the Act and the rules are in place to ensure that clinical laboratories operate in a safe, efficient, and clinically sound manner so that patients receive accurate and reliable test results.

Based upon the foregoing, CLIS has determined that Garden State Medical Center Laboratory is in violation of N.J.A.C. 8:44-2.7 for failure to maintain raw data to support the results of 1,950 patient urine toxicology tests. N.J.S.A. 45:9-42.31 provides that the laboratory director and owner are jointly and separately responsible for ensuring that the Laboratory is operating in compliance with the Act and the rules. As a result, the Laboratory is hereby assessed a monetary penalty of \$2,200 (failure to maintain raw data for 11 months of urine toxicology testing x \$200).

Payment of \$2,200.00 must be submitted within 30 days from the date of this notice through the e-payment link on the CLIS website located at <https://www.nj.gov/health/phel/epayments.shtml>. Please select *License – Clinical Laboratory/Collection Station* following *Assessment of Penalty link*. Please include **Control Number 2026-CLIS9043GSMC-01**.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., you may request a hearing before the Office of Administrative law to contest this monetary penalty. 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 penalty shall be held in abeyance until such time as the hearing has been concluded and a final decision rendered. If you wish to request a hearing, please include the **Control Number 2026-CLIS9043GSMC-01** 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
Email: olrc@doh.nj.gov

Finally, please note that failure to submit a request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this Notice shall be interpreted as an acceptance of the Department's penalty, thereby negating any further appeal rights and converting the penalty as final and immediately due. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:9-42.43; failure to pay this penalty may result in the delinquent account being referred for collection, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:58-1 et seq.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Jacquelyn Guthrie at Jacquelyn.Guthrie@doh.nj.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Rimmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "A" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Alan Rimmer, MD
Executive Director
Clinical Laboratory Improvement Services
New Jersey Department of Health

c: Thomas Kirn, Medical Director
Rosalind Finney, Assistant Commissioner
Jacquelyn Guthrie, CLIS