



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

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

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

September 25, 2013

MARY E. O'DOWD, M.P.H.  
Commissioner

Stephen Tisch

Re: **Notice of Summary Suspension:**  
**EMT Certification # 594508**  
**Investigation Control # 2013-478**

Dear Mr. Tisch:

The New Jersey Department of Health (the Department) is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 26:2H-1 et seq., Health Care Facilities Planning Act*, which was enacted, in part, to assure 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 basic life support (BLS) personnel. In addition, *N.J.S.A. 26:2K-7 et seq., Emergency Medical Services Act* authorizes the Department to certify Emergency Medical Technician-Basics (EMT-B). In furtherance of the objectives set forth in the statutes, the Department has adopted regulations that govern the training, certification and professional conduct of EMT-B and EMT-B candidates. (See: *N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1 Emergency Medical Technicians-Basics: Training and Certification.*)

On September 24, 2013, the Department's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) received notification that you applied for employment with Quality Medical Transport. During their background investigation, it was discovered that you were charged with distribution and possession of child pornography on April 27, 2012. Upon review of OEMS' records, you have not reported this incident to the Office as required under *N.J.A.C. 8:40A - 7.1h(1)*.

As a matter of policy, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to the notification. Thereafter, OEMS investigators contacted the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office. A representative from the Prosecutor's Office confirmed that on April 27, 2012, you were arrested and charged with the following under warrant number W2012-000136-1520:

1. Distribution of child pornography, which is in violation of *N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(A)*;
2. Possession of child pornography, which is in violation of *N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5)(B)*; *N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.2(a)* states:

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 crimes with which you have been charged, 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 and shall remain suspended indefinitely. 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 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, 08611.

In the interim, the OEMS will continue to investigate this matter. You will be notified when the OEMS has completed its investigation, at which time you will be advised of what action(s), if any, will be taken with respect to your EMT certification.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.3(a), you may appeal to the Commissioner of the Department Health for a 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 may apply for injunctive relief in the Superior Court of New Jersey. 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 2013-477 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. Tamara Roach

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 this Department's decision, thereby negating any further appeal rights. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Donald Roberts, at (609) 633-7777.

Sincerely,

Karen Halupke, RN, M.Ed.  
Director  
Emergency Medical Services

c. Christopher R. Rinn, Assistant Commissioner  
Donald Roberts, OEMS  
James Sweeney, OEMS  
Tamara Roach, OLRC

SENT VIA REGULAR U.S. MAIL AND  
CERTIFIED MAIL # 7011 1570 0003 3723 8059  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED