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

April 23, 2021

Jay Zimmerman

Re: Order to Cease and Desist Impersonating a NJ Certified EMT Investigation Control # 2021-0100V

EMS ID # 513132

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

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 (EMT). 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 March 25, 2021, the Department received a complaint that you were providing patient care and treatment to patients, as an EMT, while operating for Great Bay Regional Volunteer EMS (GBRVEMS) even though your EMT certification is expired. Consistent with its regulatory authority and the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) policy, the OEMS opened an investigation in response to this notification.

The OEMS investigator confirmed that you were certified as an EMT from December 20, 1995 to December 12, 2002, and then again from August 14, 2006 to December 31, 2020. However, you do not currently hold an EMT certification. Although you are not currently certified as an EMT, an audit of GBRVEMS' electronic patient care reports (ePCRs) revealed that you were listed as an EMT on three (3) separate ePCRs from January 1, 2021 to March 26, 2021, and that you signed each report. Additionally, during an unrelated investigation (Incident Control # 2021-0087V) on March 16, 2021, you had a conversation with the OEMS investigators. During this conversation, you were wearing a Job Shirt with your name across the right breast, a GBRVEMS patch on the left shoulder, and an EMT patch on the right shoulder. Thus, you were clearly representing yourself as an EMT.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:2K-40, N.J.S.A. 26:2K-42, and N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.1(a), an individual shall not act in the capacity of or portray themselves as an EMT-Basic unless certified by the Department. From its investigation, the Department finds that you are in violation of these statutes and the rule because you are not certified by the Department as an EMT. Yet, you were

acting in the capacity of and portraying yourself as an EMT. Thus, the Department finds that you were impersonating an EMT in the State of New Jersey.

Based upon the foregoing, the Department hereby **orders you, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.4(a)(1), to immediately CEASE AND DESIST** from making any further representations that you are a certified New Jersey EMT. You are further prohibited from acting in the capacity of an EMT. Additionally, you are hereby ordered to immediately surrender any and all invalid and/or fraudulent certification credentials in your possession. Failure to abide by this order to cease and desist may result in additional fines and penalties as provided for in N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.4(a)(2).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-10.4(a)(1)(ii), this order to desist shall constitute 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 <a href="mailto:zachary.raab@doh.nj.gov">zachary.raab@doh.nj.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Terry Clancy, PhD, RN, NRP

Director

Office of Emergency Medical Services

c: Eric Hicken, Chief, Licensing Inspection and Enforcement, OEMS Candace Gardner, Chief, Clinical Education & Licensure, OEMS Zak Raab, Investigator, OEMS NREMT File

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