

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO BOX 358 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358

www.nj.gov/health

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER R. RINN Acting Commissioner

Notice of Revocation of Nurse Aide Certification NA: 8655073 OPC No: 17-11341

Ka-Tira Lewis

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under authority of federal law, imposes a requirement on state governments to ensure that nurse aides have the education and clinical skills necessary to care for residents of long term care facilities. See 42 C.F.R. Part 483. These regulations also require that each State maintain a nurse aide Registry, which, pursuant to 42 CFR 483.156(c)(1)(iv), must contain all substantiated findings by the State of resident mistreatment, abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of resident property by a certified nurse aide.

The Certification Program of the New Jersey State Department of Health (Department) was notified of the results of an investigation in which sufficient information was obtained that you have been accused of abuse, neglect and mistreatment, of a nursing home resident. This occurred on or about September 14, 2017, while you were employed as a certified nurse aide at Broadway House for Continuing Care, in Newark, New Jersey.

Specifically, it is alleged that on September 14, 2017, you, abused, mistreated, neglected a vulnerable resident entrusted to your care when you were aware that the resident was sleeping on the floor for two hours and you failed to request assistance to return her to her bed. In addition, when a co-worker found the resident sleeping on the floor and offered assistance to you to transfer the resident back to her bed, you refused and responded that the resident would have to wait until you returned from your break.

Ka-Tira Lewis Page 2

On October 25, 2017, you were sent a Notice of Right to Hearing prior to having a finding of abuse or neglect being placed next to your name on the New Jersey Nurse Aide Registry (Registry). At that time, you were notified that you had 30 days to request a hearing to contest the charge against you. This office received no such request within the prescribed time.

The first-class mail letter was not returned to this office. A check of the Criminal Background Investigation Unit database and the Nurse Aide Registry on January 9, 2018, did not indicate a new address. If you moved, it is your responsibility to notify the Nurse Aide Registry and the Criminal Background Investigation Unit of your new address.

Therefore, in accordance with 42 CFR 483.156(c)(1)(iv), please be advised that a finding of abuse, neglect and mistreatment, will be placed next to your name on the Registry on January 9, 2018, and will remain on the Registry permanently.

Please surrender your nurse aide certificate and wallet card to:

Office of Program Compliance-Reporting 25 South Stockton Street, 2nd Floor PO Box 358 Trenton, NJ 08625-0358

The certificate and the wallet card are no longer valid and the status of your nurse aide certification is no revoked.

Please be advised that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.1(a)1, only individuals who maintain a currently valid nurse aide certificate and are registered in good standing on the Registry are considered by the Department to be competent to work as a nurse aide in a licensed long term care facility. A certified nurse aide is no longer registered in good standing if a finding of abuse, neglect or misappropriation by the certified nurse aide is included on the registry. Therefore, if a finding of abuse remains next to your name on the Registry, you are prohibited from employment as a certified nurse aide in a licensed long term care facility.

In accordance with 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 483.156 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-43.7, you are entitled to submit a written statement contesting the findings noted above. This statement will be maintained on the Registry. If you wish to submit such a written statement, you must do so within 20 days of the date of this letter. Your letter should reference "Notice of Revocation of Nurse Aide Certificate: Contested Findings."

Ka-Tira Lewis Page 2

Please forward this statement to the Office of Program Compliance-Reporting along with your nurse aide certification and your nurse aide wallet card to the address listed above.

Sincerely.

Lisa King, Regulatory Officer
Office of Program Compliance

Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing

New Jersey Department of Health

LK/sld

DATE: January 9, 2018

CERTIFIED MAIL: Return Receipt Requested

US FIRST CLASS MAIL