

# State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

www.nj.gov/health

SHEREEF M. ELNAHAL, MD, MBA Commissioner

Governor
SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

June 5, 2019

Latoya Albritton

**RE:** Summary Suspension

Latoya Albritton Certification # NA 200002806

Enclosed is an Order of Summary Suspension, issued under authority of N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.5(b). It is alleged that, on April 26, 2019, you abused, neglected and mistreated an 83-year-old long-term care resident when you worked as a certified nurse aide at Merry Heart Health Care Center, in Succasunna, New Jersey. Specifically, it is alleged that video evidence shows you arguing with the resident, pointing fingers in her face and extending your leg toward the resident, causing the resident to trip, fall and injure herself.

As of your receipt of this Order, your nurse aide certification is no longer valid. You have thirty (30) days from the date you receive this notice to appeal this summary suspension to the Commissioner of the Department of Health, as set forth in the enclosed Order. Please review the Order carefully. Failure to submit a timely written request for emergency relief within 30 days from the date of receipt of this Order shall be considered an acceptance of this Department's decision to summarily suspend your nurse aide certification pending completion of the investigation, thereby forfeiting all rights to emergency relief. In addition, even if you do appeal, your certification will remain suspended pending the issuance of a final agency decision, and therefore you cannot work as a certified nurse aide.

Should you have any questions regarding this Order, please contact Lisa King in the Office of Program Compliance at (609) 984-8128.

Sincerely,

Lisa King, Regulator Officer
Office of Program Compliance

Division of Certificate of Need & Licensing

New Jersey Department of Health

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## State of New Jersey

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PO BOX 358

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

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SHEILA Y. OLIVER

SHEREEF M. ELNAHAL, MD, MBA

Commissioner

### IN THE MATTER OF:

Latoya Albritton Certified Nurse Aide	)	ORDER OF SUMMARY
	)	SUSPENSION OF
Certification No. NA 200002806	)	NURSE AIDE CERTIFICATION

TO: Latoya Albritton

**TAKE NOTICE** that, in accordance with the authority set forth in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:1A-1 et seq., <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:2H-1 et seq., and the provisions set forth at <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-43.5(b), the New Jersey Department of Health (hereinafter, "the Department") hereby

FINDS that you, Latoya Albritton, Certification No. NA 200002806, are a certified nurse aide within the State of New Jersey, which certification entitles you to obtain and/or maintain employment at nursing homes and other long-term care health care facilities, where your duties include the provision of direct, hand-to-hand care to elderly, often vulnerable, residents of said nursing homes and other long-term care health care facilities; and the Department further

FINDS that credible evidence exists that, on April 26, 2019, you abused, neglected and mistreated an 83-year-old long-term care resident when you worked as a certified nurse aide at Merry Heart Health Care Center, in Succasunna, New Jersey; specifically, it is alleged that video evidence shows you arguing with the resident, pointing fingers in her face and extending your leg toward the resident, causing the resident to trip, fall and injure herself; and the Department further

FINDS that you pose an immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public, including residents of long term care facilities, assisted living facilities and other licensed health care facilities or agencies, including home health agencies that provide in-home care, and that you shall be immediately suspended from eligibility for employment as a nurse aide, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.5(b).

### NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby administratively

ORDERED that your certification to work as a certified nurse aide in a long-term care facility, assisted living facility and other licensed health care facility or agency, is

hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**, and your certification shall remain suspended until such time as the Department has completed its investigation into this matter; and it is further administratively

**ORDERED** that, in the interim, the Department will continue to investigate this matter. You will be notified when the Department has completed its investigation, at which time you will be advised of what action(s), if any, will be taken with respect to your nurse aide certification.

TAKE NOTICE THAT in accordance with the provisions set forth in N.J.A.C. 8:39-43.5(b), you have thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of this notice to request an expedited hearing to appeal this summary suspension to the Commissioner of the Department of Health. Any such hearing shall be conducted at the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law, and shall be conducted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq., and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1-1 et seq. A request for an expedited hearing shall be made in writing and sent to:

Attention: OAL Expedited Hearing Requests
Office of Legal & Regulatory Compliance - Room 805
New Jersey State Department of Health
P.O. Box 360
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0360

Failure to submit a written request for emergency relief within 30 days from the date of receipt of this Order shall be interpreted as notice and acceptance of this Department's decision to summarily suspend your nurse aide certification pending completion of the investigation, thereby forfeiting all rights to emergency relief. In addition, even if you do appeal, please be advised that your certification will remain suspended pending the final agency decision, and therefore you cannot work as a certified nurse aide. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Department of Health at (609) 984-8128.

DATED: June 5, 2019

Lisa King, Regulatory Officer
Office of Program Compliance
Division of Certificate of

Need & Licensing

LK:jlm