

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF [REDACTED])
)
IN RE: [REDACTED])

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

[REDACTED], you were suspected of having active infectious pulmonary tuberculosis (TB). This diagnosis was confirmed by [REDACTED]. This is a life-threatening airborne disease. In order to limit the spread of TB, it is essential that you are completely treated to prevent others from being infected because of contact with you.

[REDACTED]

Additionally, please be advised that DHEC is authorized by law to conduct "contact" investigations to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. R. 61-20, Section 13. TB is an infectious disease. A contact investigation requires that you provide the names of individuals with whom you were in contact at times when you were infectious to others. DHEC has made repeated requests of you to provide the names of your contacts to DHEC staff. You have refused to name, or give complete information about, the contacts, and failed to cooperate with DHEC in its efforts to identify known contacts and to provide necessary testing and treatment to exposed individuals. Your refusal to identify others with whom you have had contact places those individuals at significant risk and endangers the public health.

To prevent the spread of active pulmonary tuberculosis to others, you are [REDACTED] directed to provide the names of all people with whom you were in contact [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and any other time period in which DHEC determines your tuberculosis was infectious.

For the protection of your personal welfare, for the prevention of the possible spread of the disease, and for the protection of public health, it is required by South Carolina law that you adhere to these requirements:

1. Follow all respiratory isolation precautions at all times to avoid exposing others; wear a mask whenever you are around other people;

2. Not leave your home without approval in advance from DHEC; not allow visitors inside your home without taking proper precautions, including wearing a mask; not travel on public transportation such as buses, trains, or planes without approval in advance from DHEC;
3. Follow all DHEC staff instructions, including compliance with all necessary investigations and prescribed treatment and instructions from DHEC medical staff; and
4. Immediately assist and cooperate with DHEC staff conducting contact investigations at all times by disclosing identities, location, and other information as determined by DHEC to be necessary to notify contacts and provide appropriate public health information for persons at risk of being exposed.

NOW IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-20, Section 10, that you immediately comply with the above directives until such time as you are determined to be free of active tuberculosis disease and your illness no longer poses a risk to the public's health.

Your examination and treatment are required by and pursuant to sections 44-1-80, 44-1-100, 44-1-110, 44-1-140, of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and DHEC Regulation 61-20, as amended.

Failure to cooperate with all necessary investigations, isolation, evaluation, and treatment will result in your arrest by a law enforcement officer, for the purpose of the enforcement of Regulation 61-20 and this Public Health Order, pursuant to South Carolina law, Section 44-1-100. Further, violation of this Order may subject you to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars a day for each violation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 44-1-150. Additionally, DHEC is authorized by S.C. Code Ann. Section 44-31-105 to issue this Public Health Order requiring your compliance with contagion precautions and an appropriate TB treatment plan, in addition to other required interventions. Finally, should you fail to comply with this Public Health Order or with your treatment for tuberculosis, DHEC is authorized by S.C. Code Ann. Section 44-31-110 to file a Petition with the Probate Court requesting that you be involuntarily committed to an inpatient facility for isolation and treatment.

Non-compliance with any provision of this Order will result in your immediate emergency detention and isolation.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

State Public Health Director
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

Date