

SUMMARY SHEET  
SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

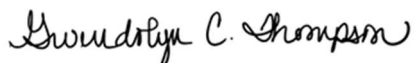
February 10, 2022

- ( ) ACTION/DECISION  
(X) INFORMATION

- I. TITLE:** Healthcare Quality Administrative and Consent Orders.
- II. SUBJECT:** Healthcare Quality Administrative Orders and Consent Orders for the period of December 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.
- III. FACTS:** For the period of December 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, Healthcare Quality reports five (5) Consent Orders totaling \$18,100 in assessed monetary penalties.

Name of Bureau	Facility, Service, Provider, or Equipment Type	Administrative Orders	Consent Orders	Assessed Penalties	Required Payment
Community Care	Community Residential Care Facility (CRCF)	0	3	\$15,300	\$15,300
Healthcare Systems and Services	Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency	0	1	\$2,500	\$2,500
	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	0	1	\$300	\$300
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$18,100</b>	<b>\$18,100</b>

Submitted By:



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Gwen C. Thompson  
Deputy Director  
Healthcare Quality

HEALTHCARE QUALITY ENFORCEMENT REPORT  
SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

February 10, 2022

**Bureau of Community Care**

Facility Type	Total Number of Licensed Facilities	Total Number of Licensed Beds
Community Residential Care Facility (CRCF)	482	22,122

**1. Benton House of Bluffton – Bluffton, SC**

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted complaint investigations in March 2021 and May 2021 and found the facility violated regulatory requirements.

Violations: The Department found the facility violated Regulation 61-84, *Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities*, by failing to ensure a resident’s safety and the supervision of a resident in accordance with the individual care plan. Moreover, the facility failed to ensure that residents were protected from physical abuse as outlined in the Bill of Rights for Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order imposing a civil monetary penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) against the facility. The facility was required to pay the full amount of the assessed monetary penalty within thirty (30) days of the execution of the Consent Order. The facility also agreed to schedule and attend a compliance assistance meeting with the Department within forty-five (45) days of executing the Consent Order.

Remedial Action: The facility has paid the full amount of the assessed monetary penalty, totaling \$5,000. The compliance assistance meeting was scheduled to take place February 2, 2022.

Prior Actions: None in the past five (5) years.

## **2. Palmetto Ridge Assisted Living and Memory Care – Cheraw, SC**

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted several complaint investigations in March 2021 and July 2021, a routine inspection in April 2021, a routine follow-up inspection in July 2021, and issued two (2) citations-by-mail to the facility in June 2021.

Violations: The Department found the facility violated Regulation 61-84, *Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities*, by failing to submit two (2) acceptable plans of correction for violations cited from two (2) investigations. The Department further found the facility failed to administer medications in accordance with physicians' orders, failed to have residents' physician-ordered medications available for administration, failed to properly initial residents' medication administration records (MARs) as the medications were administered, failed to have documented reviews of the MARs at each shift change by outgoing staff with incoming staff, failed to ensure medication were kept in original containers or packaging, and failed to ensure expired and/or discontinued medications were not stored with current medications. Moreover, the facility failed to document review of the controlled substance sheets at each shift change by outgoing staff with incoming staff.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order imposing a civil monetary penalty of ten thousand three hundred dollars (\$10,300) against the facility. The facility was required to pay the assessed monetary penalty in four (4) monthly payments of two thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars (\$2,575) each. The facility also agreed to schedule and attend a compliance assistance meeting with the Department within forty-five (45) days of executing the Consent Order.

Remedial Action: The facility paid the first monthly payment, totaling \$2,575. The compliance assistance meeting was held on January 27, 2022.

Prior Actions: None in the past five (5) years.

## **3. Hannah Residential Manor – Pamplico, SC**

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted a complaint investigation in December 2021, and found the facility violated regulatory requirements.

Violations: The Department found the facility violated Regulation 61-84, *Standards for Licensing Community Residential Care Facilities*, by failing to maintain its main building in good repair and operating condition. The Department found the facility did not maintain the roof in good repair and was affecting the structural integrity of the roof and the safety of the building's electrical system.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The facility agreed to immediately cease occupying and utilizing its main building which includes, but is not limited to, all administrative areas, resident rooms, and the kitchen and dining areas, until the following conditions have been fulfilled, as determined by the Department:

- (1) The facility will have an engineer, licensed in South Carolina, inspect its roof, and issue a written report that details any repairs necessary to ensure the structural integrity of the roof.
- (2) The facility will have an electrician, licensed in South Carolina, inspect its electrical system, and issue a written report that details any repairs necessary to ensure a safe electrical system.

- (3) The facility will send both reports to the Department.
- (4) The facility will complete any necessary repairs, as described in the reports. To the extent repairs are required, the facility will notify and coordinate with the Department pursuant to S.C. Code Section 44-7-320 and Regulation 61-84, Section 301.
- (5) Upon completion of the necessary repairs and any applicable construction requirement, the Department will issue a letter allowing the facility to occupy and utilize the main building.
- (6) The facility agreed to implement its emergency evacuation plan and relocate the residents who reside in the main building by December 27, 2021. The facility is required to coordinate with the residents' responsible patients and appropriate agencies for relocation of the residents.
- (7) The facility agreed to limit operations to its smaller building, which has a licensed bed capacity of eight (8) beds, and provide the Department with a written plan for the continuity care for the remaining residents including food service, activities, and medication storage.
- (8) The facility agreed to provide the Department with a weekly e-mail addressing the relocation of the residents in the main building, the continuity of care of the residents in the smaller building, and the inspection and repair of the main building's roof.

Remedial Action: As of January 31, 2022, the facility has not fulfilled conditions (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5). The facility has fulfilled conditions (6) and (7), and is currently fulfilling condition (8) as of January 31, 2022. The actions that fulfilled conditions (6) and (7) included the relocation of fifty-two (52) residents to other facilities and eight (8) residents to the facility's smaller building. In addition, Department staff conducted an inspection on January 25, 2022 and found the large main building of facility was vacated, locked, and not accessible to residents or staff.

Prior Actions: None in the past five (5) years.

### **Bureau of Healthcare Systems and Services**

License Type	Total Number of EMS Agencies
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency	273

#### **4. Lifeline Ambulance – Lugoff, SC**

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted an investigation beginning in May 2021, and found the agency was in violation of a regulatory requirement.

Violations: The Department found the agency was in violation of Regulation 61-7, *Emergency Medical Services*, because the agency allowed an emergency medical technician with an expired certification to provide patient care for 43 patient encounters. The Department concluded that the agency violated S.C.

Code Section 44-61-50 and Regulation 61-7 because they require all ambulance attendants to have a valid emergency medical technician certificate, and require all persons providing patient care within the scope of an emergency medical technician to have the proper South Carolina certification from the Department.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order assessing a monetary penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) against the agency. The agency is required to pay the assessed monetary penalty within thirty (30) days of the execution of the Consent Order. The agency is required to submit a written plan of correction within forty-five (45) days of execution of the Consent Order. The Department will conduct a follow-up inspection within sixty (60) days of execution of the Consent Order.

Remedial Action: The agency made the required payment, in full, totaling \$2,500. The agency submitted a written plan of correction. The Department is scheduling the follow-up inspection.

Prior Actions: None in the past five (5) years.

Level of Certification	Total Number of Certified EMTs
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	7,178

## 5. Thomas Davis – EMT

Inspections and Investigations: The Department received a complaint in January 2021, and after conducting an investigation, found that the EMT was in violation of regulatory requirements.

Violations: The Department determined that the EMT was in violation of Regulation 61-7, *Emergency Medical Services*, for committing misconduct as defined in S.C. Code Section 44-61-80(F) for performing an advanced skill above the level for which he was certified or trained. The Department found that the EMT operated outside of his scope of practice and training as an EMT by transporting a patient with a medicated intravenous (IV) solution.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order assessing a monetary penalty of three hundred dollars (\$300) against the EMT. The EMT is required to pay the full amount of the assessed monetary penalty within thirty (30) days of execution of the Consent Order.

Remedial Action: The EMT made the required payment, in full, totaling \$300.

Prior Actions: None in past five (5) years.