

SUMMARY SHEET
SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

December 12, 2019

- () ACTION/DECISION
(X) INFORMATION

- I. TITLE:** Health Regulation Administrative and Consent Orders.
- II. SUBJECT:** Health Regulation Administrative and Consent Orders for the period of October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019.
- III. FACTS:** For the period of October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019, Health Regulation reports 4 Consent Orders totaling \$14,300 in assessed monetary penalties. There were no Administrative Orders or Emergency Suspension Orders issued during the reporting period.

Health Regulation Bureau	Facility, Service, Provider, or Equipment Type	Administrative Orders	Consent Orders	Emergency Suspension Orders	Assessed Penalties
Health Facilities Licensing	Community Residential Care Facility	0	1	0	\$12,300
	In-Home Care Provider	0	1	0	\$500
EMS & Trauma	Paramedic	0	1	0	\$0
	EMS Agency	0	1	0	\$1,500
TOTAL		0	4	0	\$14,300

Submitted By:

Gwendolyn C. Thompson

Gwen C. Thompson
Interim Director
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HEALTH REGULATION ENFORCEMENT REPORT
SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

December 12, 2019

Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing

Facility Type	Total # of Licensed Facilities	Total # of Licensed Beds
Community Residential Care Facility	502	21,560

1. McLeod Manor – Charleston, SC

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted several inspections, follow-up inspections, and investigations, including September 2018, December 2018, and February 2019, and found that the facility repeatedly violated numerous regulatory requirements.

Violations: The Department found that the facility failed to allow authorized individuals to enter the facility for an inspection, repeatedly failed to submit a timely plan of correction, and failed to have written policies and procedures addressing each section of the regulation regarding resident care, rights, and the operation of the facility. The Department also found that the facility repeatedly failed to conduct criminal background checks, repeatedly failed to maintain current staff contact information, failed to document staffing ratios, and failed to maintain documentation of training for all staff members. The facility had multiple violations regarding training, including emergency procedures, fire response, resident information confidentiality, restraint techniques, medication management, and the care of persons with contagious or communicable diseases. Moreover, the facility failed to document resident observation notes, resident individual care plans, resident physical examinations, and two-step tuberculin skin tests on residents.

Enforcement Action: The parties conducted an enforcement conference and agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order imposing a civil monetary penalty of \$12,300 against the facility. The facility is required to pay \$6,800 of the assessed monetary penalty in four payments of \$1,700. The facility has made the first required payment. The facility is also required to participate in a compliance assistance meeting with the Department.

Prior Actions: None.

Facility Type	Total # of Licensed Facilities
In-Home Care Provider	658

2. Lowcountry Companions, LLC – Charleston, SC

Inspections and Investigations: The Department conducted an investigation in May 2019, which resulted in a cited violation and enforcement.

Violations: During the May 2019, investigation, when Department staff arrived at the facility to conduct an investigation, the facility administrator instructed facility staff to deny Department staff access to the Facility and its records. Department staff went back to the facility on a later date and were granted access to conduct the investigation.

Enforcement Action: The parties conducted an enforcement conference and agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order imposing a civil monetary penalty of \$500 against the facility. The facility was required to pay the full assessed monetary penalty within 30 days of executing the Consent Order. The facility has made the required payment.

Prior Actions: None.

Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma

Provider Type	Total # of Certified Paramedics
Paramedic	3,873

3. Dwayne Alan Hollingsworth – Paramedic

Inspections and Investigations: In June 2019, the Department was notified of patient care allegedly provided by Mr. Hollingsworth and initiated an investigation.

Violations: The Department found that Mr. Hollingsworth committed misconduct by disregarding appropriate orders of a physician concerning emergency treatment. Specifically, Mr. Hollingsworth disregarded state protocols adopted by his agency’s medical control physician by not administering a fluid bolus to a multi-system trauma patient who was in hypovolemic shock.

Enforcement Action: The parties agreed to resolve the matter with a consent order. The parties executed a consent order imposing a six-month suspension, held in abeyance, on Mr. Hollingsworth’s paramedic certificate. Mr. Hollingsworth also agreed to complete an advanced cardiac life support course, a prehospital trauma life support course, and a state protocol examination administered by his agency’s medical control physician.

Prior Actions: None.

Provider Type	Total # of Licensed Ambulance Services
EMS Agency	268

4. Vital Care EMS – EMS Agency

Inspections and Investigations: In May 2019, Vital Care EMS notified the Department it had an employee who worked as a paramedic without possessing a valid South Carolina paramedic certification, and the Department initiated an investigation.

Violations: The Department found that the employee did not hold a certification as a South Carolina paramedic while he performed patient care within the scope of a paramedic on three separate ambulance runs working for Vital Care EMS in February 2019. Therefore, the Department determined Vital Care EMS committed misconduct in by permitting uncertified personnel to perform patient care.

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 \$1,500 against Vital Care EMS. The provider was required to pay \$500 of the assessed monetary penalty within 30 days of executing the Consent Order, with the remaining \$1,000 held in abeyance. The provider has made the required payment.

Prior Actions: None.