



News Release

For immediate release: February 21, 2014

(14-023)

Contact: Media inquiries: [Sharon Moysiuk](#), Communications Office 360-236-4074
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service 360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In January 2014 the Mental Health Counselor Program charged mental health counselor **Brenda Lea Vanderpool** (LH60196756) with unprofessional conduct. Vanderpool allegedly formed a close personal relationship with a patient who had a history of suicidal thoughts, and continued to treat her after the two developed a personal relationship. Charges say the dual relationship impaired Vanderpool's professional judgment and increased the risk of harm to the patient. Vanderpool also allegedly didn't request the patient's mental health treatment records and didn't document a treatment plan.

Douglas County

In January 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Natasha Dawn Craigen** (CO60423039) and placed her on probation. Craigen must undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program, and take continuing education in professional law and ethics. In 2011 Craigen was convicted of second-degree taking a motor vehicle without permission and second-degree malicious mischief.

Franklin County

In January 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant and registered

nursing assistant **Carlos J. Perez-Leon Jr.** (NC60204459, NA00136982) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 he was charged with second-degree rape and second-degree assault.

Grays Harbor County

In January 2014 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program charged respiratory care practitioner **Alisa R. Garcia** (LR00002924) with unprofessional conduct. Garcia allegedly gave a patient an anesthetic she was unauthorized to administer.

King County

In January 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Bill Chin** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Chin, who holds no massage practitioner credential, allegedly misrepresented himself as a massage practitioner and gave a patient a massage.

In December 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a registered nursing assistant credential to **Victor Karanja Maina** (NA60305042) and ordered him to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2011 Maina was convicted of driving while intoxicated. In 2012 he received deferred prosecution on a driving while intoxicated charge.

In January 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Malcolm Jackson** (NC10019396) with unprofessional conduct. While working in a geriatric psychiatry unit, Jackson was responsible for the care of a 90-year-old woman diagnosed with dementia with behavioral disturbance. Allegations are that while Jackson was helping her in the bathroom, she became combative and hit Jackson. He then grabbed and held her wrists, ran out of the bathroom and pushed the call light next to the patient's bed. Two workers who responded found Jackson standing next to the bed with blood-covered hands and the patient in the bathroom with bleeding wrists.

In January 2014 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Programs charged emergency medical technician **Todd Foreman** (ES00106166) with unprofessional conduct. Foreman allegedly hasn't complied with a 2013 stipulation or responded to a Department of Health inquiry.

In January 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted an interim medical assistant credential to **Juiles Yvette Smith** (IC60420324) and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2011 Smith received deferred prosecution on a fourth-degree assault charge. In 2012 she was charged twice with driving while intoxicated. The results of those cases are pending.

In January 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Cherie Ann Byrd** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Byrd's massage therapist credential expired in 1984. Since about March 2013, Byrd allegedly has practiced massage, advertising her massage practice on the Internet between April and November 2013.

Lewis County

In December 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registered nursing assistant credential of **Karla Kay Bates**, also known as Karla Kay Bush (NA00022035), whose credential was suspended in 1993.

In January 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Kimberly Rose Woo** (NA00159356) with unprofessional conduct. Woo allegedly didn't comply with a 2012 stipulation.

Pierce County

In January 2014 the Psychology Board amended a statement of charges against psychologist **Sunil K. Kakar** (PY00003098) to reflect his credential was immediately suspended in October 2013. Kakar allegedly didn't comply with a 2013 agreement requiring him to participate in a chemical dependency monitoring and treatment program.

Snohomish County

In January 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Lisa Yavette Collins** (CO60328535) and placed her on probation. Collins must undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program, and take continuing education in professional law and ethics. Collins was convicted of two felonies, 13 gross misdemeanors, and 14 misdemeanors between 1992 and 2007.

In January 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Damon Pope** (RN00141422) with unprofessional conduct. While working in a hospital oncology center, Pope allegedly withdrew narcotic medication for patients but didn't document administering or disposing of it. Charges say Pope admitted to not following the facility's disposal policy and that he sometimes charted administering medication before he actually did.

Spokane County

In December 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certified nursing assistant credential of **Christina May McCoy** (NC60039386), whose license was suspended in 2010 when she didn't respond to inquiries about allegations of a conviction.

In January 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Vanessa M. Thrall** (NA60258055) with unprofessional conduct. The Department of Social and Health Services found that Thrall had physically and mentally abused a vulnerable adult. She can't be employed in caring for vulnerable adults, and hasn't responded to a Department of Health inquiry.

Thurston County

In January 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified medical

assistant credential to **Jami Marie Briggeman** (CM60428590), who in 2009, was convicted of five counts of identity theft.

Out of State

California: In January 2014 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Kevin Matthew McCarthy** (MA00010326) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 McCarthy was convicted in Oregon of possession of cocaine and unlawful delivery of marijuana for no consideration.

Idaho: In January 2014 the Medical Commission conditionally granted a physician credential to **Robert M. Mena** (MD00033518). In 2009 Mena agreed to an Idaho stipulation requiring him not to perform obstetrics or to treat chronic pain patients. He agreed to the same conditions in Washington.

Nevada: In January 2014 the Nursing Commission conditionally granted a registered nursing credential to **Sandra Jean Pheasant** (RN60385263) and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2009 Pheasant entered a contract for a temporary voluntary surrender of her Nevada license. She admitted that she didn't follow hospital policy for documenting and administering controlled substances, and tested positive for controlled substances that weren't prescribed to her. In 2010 she agreed to have her Nevada license monitored for at least five years.

Oregon: In January 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Guadalupe Gutierrez** (NC60151060) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 Gutierrez was convicted of driving while intoxicated.

Wisconsin: In December 2013 the Nursing Commission denied a registered nursing credential to **Charles A. Lindeen** (RN60400928). Lindeen has several convictions in Wisconsin. In 2009 and again in 2010, Lindeen was convicted of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, and in 2013 he was convicted of disorderly conduct.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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