



# News Release

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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**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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 March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certified nursing assistant credential of **Dusti Dawn Brewer** (NC10049661) and placed her credential on probation for at least 18 months. Brewer's credential was suspended in 2012 because she didn't appear at a prehearing conference to answer charges that she threw water into the face of a patient with dementia.

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Susan H. McKenzie** (RN00125529) with unprofessional conduct due to allegations that she didn't comply with a 2013 stipulation requiring her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program.

### Chelan County

In March 2014 the Massage Program ended probation for massage practitioner **Nichole C. Rueth** (MA00016599).

In March 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program ended probation for agency affiliated counselor **Sarah Jeanne Baxter** (CG60306893).

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### **Clallam County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee **Nona Gale Deanda** (CO60147549).

### **Clark County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Lisa Lee Mumma** (CP60414231) that requires her to continue complying with a 2011 agreement that granted her a chemical dependency professional trainee credential.

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee **Thomas Alan Breitenbauch** (CO60234276).

### **Grant County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Andrew Bernard Phillips** (CO60435885). His registered counselor credential was revoked in 2010 after he waived an opportunity for a hearing on unprofessional conduct charges involving sexual misconduct with a 17-year-old client.

### **King County**

In March 2014 the Dental Commission entered an agreement with dentist **Cynthia Leu-Yeh** (DE00007993) that requires her to undergo a professional skills assessment and comply with the recommendations from that evaluation. Leu-Yeh provided substandard care and prescribed excessive amounts of narcotic medication for one patient and also provided substandard care and improperly billed another. She must pay a \$20,000 fine and reimburse the commission \$10,000 in expenses.

In March 2014 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **Hashim Chothia** (DE00006778).

In March 2014 the Naturopathy Board charged naturopathic physician **Dora Emilova Keating** (NT60259610) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations are that her medical marijuana authorizations for 10 patients didn't meet the state's requirements for diagnoses, follow-up care, and documentation.

In November 2013 the Medical Assistant Program denied an interim medical assistant credential to **Scott David Hale** (IC60416276), whose agency-affiliated counselor credential was suspended in 2013.

### **Kitsap County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kelly Ryan Frost** (CO60312416).

### **Lewis County**

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Quahlee Lassila** (RN00135084, AP30005437) with unprofessional conduct. Lassila allegedly issued medical marijuana authorizations to four patients without adequately getting or reviewing their medical history, and without conducting adequate physical exams. Charges say she wrote the authorizations for patients, whose conditions didn't warrant them, without informing them of other treatment options, and didn't obtain medical records or consult with the patients' primary care providers.

### **Mason County**

In March 2014 the Massage Practitioner Program reinstated the massage practitioner credential of **Alexa J. Lee**, also known as Alexa J. Devlin (MA00024600) and placed her credential on probation for at least one year. Her credential was suspended in 2011 after she began a romantic relationship with a patient.

### **Pacific County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **James Harold Harris** (CP60345459) that requires him to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2011 Harris was placed on probation when he received a chemical dependency professional trainee credential.

### **Pierce County**

In March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program denied a registered nursing assistant credential to **Carol-Jean Johnston** (NA60431952). In 2009 the Department of Social and Health Services found Johnston had committed negligent treatment or maltreatment of foster children in her care.

### **Snohomish County**

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Andrea Katherine Arany-Kovacs** (CO60393957).

### **Spokane County**

In March 2014 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **James A. Carnell** (DE00006847).

In March 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacist **Harry Edward Mullins** (PH00015111) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Mullins applied to reactivate his Washington credential, which expired in 2002. Mullins had surrendered his California pharmacist credential in 2006 in connection with taking and using controlled substances from the pharmacy where he worked.

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### **Whatcom County**

In March 2014 the Home Care Aide Program granted a home care aide credential to **Cindy Lee Fernley** (HM60326292) that requires her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2006 Fernley was convicted in California of possession of controlled substance with intent to sell — methamphetamine, under the influence of a controlled substance — methamphetamine, and driving while intoxicated.

### **Out of State**

**California:** In March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program ended probation for certified nursing assistant **Saradia Lehtinen** (NC60188538).

**Hawaii:** In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Justin E. Henderson** (RN00155121, AP60169377) with unprofessional conduct. Henderson allegedly issued medical marijuana authorizations for four patients over the Internet via Skype and thus didn't conduct appropriate examinations. Charges say he didn't schedule follow-up appointments.

**North Carolina:** In March 2014 the Medical Commission charged physician **Lawrence M. Rubens** (MD60302825) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 his Ohio license was suspended after he admitted being impaired by alcohol dependence, and depression.

**Oregon:** In March 2014 the Nursing Commission modified a 2012 agreement with registered nurse **Rebecca E. Keen** (RN60078266) that continues her probation but allows her to work nights and overtime, and to provide temporary care.

**Oregon:** In March 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy intern **Marie Jeanette Marquis** (IR60289461) with unprofessional conduct. She's allegedly no longer enrolled as a student of pharmacy in a commission-accredited college.

**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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