



News Release

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360-236-4022
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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OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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 health care 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.

Cowlitz County

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Allison Christine Burk** (CO60442021) and placed her on probation for at least three years. Burk was convicted of three felonies and eight gross misdemeanors between 2003 and 2011, and three other criminal charges were dismissed after she completed a drug court program.

Grays Harbor County

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credential of registered nurse **Gerald Bruce Ensley** (RN00044064).

Island County

In March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Kelley Frances Bugg** (NA00112187) with unprofessional conduct. In 2010 Bugg was convicted of reckless driving and in 2012 she was convicted of third-degree theft.

King County

In March 2014 the Medical Assistant Program denied a medical assistant-phlebotomist credential to **Tamara M. Perry** (PC60432331). Her registered nurse credential was suspended in 2006 and will remain suspended until Perry provides proof of sobriety for two years.

In March 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor, Mental Health Counselor, and Chemical Dependency Professional programs charged agency affiliated counselor, mental health counselor associate, and chemical dependency professional **Bobbie Denise Catton** (CG60131664, MC60210787, CP60074797) with unprofessional conduct. Catton was convicted of first-degree criminal impersonation in 2013.

In March 2014 the Psychology Board charged psychologist **Stephen J. Cummings** (PY00000843) with unprofessional conduct. In 2006 Cummings was placed on probation for two years. While he was on probation, Cummings allegedly billed for sessions clients didn't attend, billed incorrectly, and kept inadequate records. Charges say Cummings engaged in a social and romantic relationship with a client that included inviting her to his home to drink alcohol, smoke marijuana, massage, and overnight stays. Cummings allegedly didn't have her sign legally-required forms, destroyed his calendar recording office visits, and billed her inaccurately. After the client filed a complaint, Cummings allegedly asked her to withdraw it because it would be harmful to his career.

In March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Cesar R. Figueroa** (NA60252178) with unprofessional conduct. Figueroa owned an adult family home that housed a dementia patient. Charges say after two previous incidents in which the patient was hurt or had fallen, the patient fell again, hitting his head. Figueroa allegedly knew of the fall but didn't notify the patient's family or medical providers within 48 hours. The patient died 11 days after the fall from causes described on the death certificate as resulting from a cerebral vascular accident that occurred within three weeks of his death.

In March 2014 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program charged paramedic **Thomas C. Jackson II** (ES60042709) with being unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety following a mental health evaluation.

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee **Christopher Ellis Barquet** (CO60200286).

In March 2014 the Psychology Board entered an agreement with psychologist **Harry A. Atlas** (PY00001159) that subjects him to corrective action for at least two years and requires him to pay a \$3,000 fine. Atlas formed a close personal relationship with a client, meeting and traveling with her outside of work. He discussed personal information with her, and asked her to help with his personal taxes and bookkeeping. He also took part in "bodywork" sessions with her without recognizing she might develop feelings for him. When the client told Atlas she was in love with him, he didn't end the relationship. He also didn't keep adequate records or monitor the progress of the patient's therapy.

In March 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program ended conditions on the credential of agency affiliated counselor **Suprina Louise Ford** (CG60234240).

Kitsap County

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional **Krissy Merrion Remeto**, also known as Krissy M. Murphy (CP60246706)..

Pierce County

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Jeffrey David Wilson** (CP60391036). Wilson must complete the substance abuse monitoring contract he entered into for compliance of a 2011 agreement granting him a chemical dependency professional trainee credential.

In March 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Brian Lee Hervert** (CO60445079) that placed him on probation for at least three years. Hervert was convicted of 10 felonies, nine gross misdemeanors, and two misdemeanors between 1995 and 2012.

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Tiffany E. Leach** (RN00161236) with unprofessional conduct. Leach allegedly diverted controlled substances from the hospital where she worked.

Spokane County

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Timothy A. Steele** (RN00087743) with unprofessional conduct. Steele allegedly arrived at work under the influence of alcohol.

In March 2014 the Pharmacy Commission conditionally granted a pharmacist intern credential to **Harry Edward Mullins** (IR60393417). He surrendered his California pharmacist credential in 2006 for diversion of controlled substances and personal use of controlled substances at work.

In April 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Paul A. Martsin** (VA60030831) with unprofessional conduct. Martsin allegedly diverted controlled substances from the hospital where he worked. Charges say the hospital reported the theft or loss of thousands of tablets of narcotic medication, along with a significant quantity of syrup containing codeine. In 2014 Martsin was convicted of first-degree theft, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver—hydrocodone, possession of a controlled substance—codeine, and four counts of money laundering. Martsin hasn't cooperated with a Department of Health inquiry.

In March 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Patrick D. Doyle** (VA60030783) with unprofessional conduct. Doyle allegedly admitted diverting controlled substances for his own use from several branches of the pharmacy where he worked.

Stevens County

In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Chris M. Base** (RN00172925) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations are that Base gave free samples of diabetes supplies, including medication, to clinic patients and others without orders from a prescriber. It is also alleged that she didn't document the activity or notify the prescriber.

Thurston County

In March 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Colin Tae Min McCullough** (NA60294113) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 McCullough was convicted of first-degree rape while armed with a deadly weapon; second-degree assault; first-degree robbery, and first-degree burglary.

Out of State

Alberta: In March 2014 the Chiropractic Commission reinstated the chiropractor credential of **David A.C. Hall** (CH00033869). His credential was suspended in 2005 in connection with alcohol abuse; and closing his practice without notifying his patients, referring them to other providers, or offering to give them their files. He also has two criminal convictions.

Oregon: In March 2014 the Medical Commission charged physician **John F. Lindberg** (MD00019767) with unprofessional conduct. Lindberg allegedly admitted having sex with an underage prostitute several times and is enrolled in a substance abuse monitoring program as a result of an order involving his Oregon credential.

Oregon: In March 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jason R. Vargo** (RN60392126) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Vargo's Oregon license was placed on probation for at least two years.

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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