



# News Release

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**NOTE: this document has been revised to remove an item by Superior Court order.**

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**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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

## Clark County

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant and the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems programs amended a statement of charges against certified nursing assistant and certified emergency medical technician **Zachariah A. Merritt** (NC10060344, ES01170989). The amended charges show that Merritt pleaded guilty in 2014 to third-degree rape and communication with a minor for immoral purposes.

In August 2014 the Massage Program denied a massage practitioner credential to **Aifeng Wang** (MA60462486), who didn't meet the educational requirements.

## Grays Harbor County

In September 2014 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **Richard Alfred Pedersen** (DE00005133).

Disciplinary actions

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### **King County**

In September 2014 the Dental Commission ended probation on dentist and dentist moderate sedation with parenteral agents permit holder **Adrian P. Pawlowski** (DE00007990, CS10000246).

In September 2014 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **Joyce Shu Lin** (DE00007327).

In September 2014 the Psychology Board entered an agreement with psychologist **Cheryl R. Azlin** (PY00003861) that lifts the suspension on her license. Azlin must use an ethics consultant for six months, and complete continuing education in law and ethics. Azlin surrendered her Massachusetts license even though it had expired due to events that happened on or before 2001. She became friends with a patient; after ending the psychologist-patient relationship, she accepted a \$4,000 loan from the former patient, allowed the former patient to work in her office and to pay a \$6,000 bill on her behalf.

In September 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program conditionally granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Keith R. Sellers** (CG60490550). He must continue to comply with conditions agreed to when his chemical dependency professional trainee credential was reinstated in 2012.

### **Kittitas County**

In September 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kibra Sharlene Baldwin** (CO60155320).

### **Lincoln County**

In September 2014 the Dental Commission conditionally granted a dental assistant credential to **Megan Rebecca Schlimmer**, also known as Megan R. Clark (D160298272). She must continue to comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract that took effect in 2012 in connection with her pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician credentials.

### **Pierce County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Robert J. Rodarte** (RN00150356) with unprofessional conduct. Rodarte allegedly didn't comply with a 2012 stipulation requiring him to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program.

In August 2014 the Massage Program denied a massage practitioner credential to **Xiaomeng Cai** (MA60342126), who didn't meet the educational requirements.

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Leanna Dawn Dedman** (LP60389024) with unprofessional conduct. The Missouri Board of Nursing placed Dedman on probation for two years based on allegations that she mishandled the receipt of an

order of anxiety medication, and tested positive for controlled substances that she had no prescription for.

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Devin Robert Pikla** (RN60229452) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Pikla didn't report for work as scheduled and during a welfare check was found to be intoxicated; his blood-alcohol level was .413.

### **San Juan County**

In September 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Lawrence Richard Uri III** (CO60472776), placed him on probation and ordered him to undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2011 Uri was convicted in California of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and possession of a controlled substance—cocaine, with intent to sell.

### **Skagit County**

In September 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kelly T. Glass** (CO60191529).

### **Spokane County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **April Dawn Brown** (NC60030940) with unprofessional conduct. After a work injury at a skilled nursing facility, Brown allegedly tested positive for narcotics he didn't have a prescription for, and for marijuana.

In September 2014 the Dental Commission ended probation for dentist **Scott Daniel Davis** (DE00004572).

In September 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Daryl Scott Cline** (CP60416722) and placed him on probation until at least Jan. 31, 2016. In 2013 Cline received a chemical dependency professional trainee credential under conditions that placed him on probation until that date.

In September 2014 the Psychology Board charged psychologist **John F. Robinson** (PY00000916) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Robinson and a former patient dated, had a sexual relationship, moved in together, and became engaged. Robinson also allegedly allowed the former patient to view other patients' records. Charges say he developed a personal friendship with and kissed another former patient, and didn't keep patient records for the required amount of time.

### **Thurston County**

In September 2014 the Pharmacy Commission ended conditions on the credential of pharmacist **John W. Pemberton** (PH00017890).

## **Yakima County**

In September 2014 the Medical Commission charged physician **Wallace A. Donaldson** (MD00009019) with unprofessional conduct. Donaldson was the attending physician for many residents at a nursing and rehabilitation center. Charges say Donaldson “demonstrated a pattern of failing to respond with appropriate urgency to the needs of this group of patients who are very dependent, cannot advocate for themselves, and are often in the process of dying.” Donaldson allegedly is often unreachable, doesn’t respond quickly to messages, and is frequently unhelpful. Charges say he hasn’t appropriately treated the pain of several patients in distress, insists on mailing prescriptions to pharmacies — a practice described as “insufficient, ineffective, uncompassionate, and below the standard of care.” Allegations say an 84-year-old dementia patient died without receiving medication for comfort care in her last hours.

## **Out of State**

**California:** In September 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Ameera Sahla Thomas** (DE60161079) with unprofessional conduct. Thomas allegedly extracted teeth unnecessarily from a 3-year-old patient and didn’t communicate adequately with the child’s parents.

**New Mexico:** In September 2014 the Health Care Assistant and Nursing Assistant programs ended probation for health care assistant and certified nursing assistant **Julia A. Bryan** (HC60045027, NC60175643).

**Oregon:** In September 2014 the Occupational Therapy Board charged occupational therapist **Synnove J. Abrahamsen** (OT00004565) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Abrahamsen was convicted in Oregon of unlawful possession of marijuana.

**Oregon:** In September 2014 the Dental Commission amended a statement of charges against dentist **Delon Karsten Gilbert** (DE60361877). It adds details about Gilbert’s 2013 guilty plea in Oregon to unlawful possession of cocaine, and alleges he hasn’t followed-up with a substance abuse evaluation. Charges say Gilbert also hasn’t fully complied with an Oregon Board of Dentistry order to undergo an evaluation, and he provided false information on his Oregon license renewal applications.

**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](#).