



News Release

For immediate release: February 4, 2015

(15-018)

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OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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

Chelan County

In December 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacist intern and pharmacy assistant **Brian J. Deshazo** (IR60115509, VB60048688) with unprofessional conduct. In 2010 Deshazo was arrested in connection with reckless driving. That same year he was convicted of reckless endangerment after, charges say, a police officer seized a smoking device and designer drugs from his car. Charges also say a police officer seized designer drugs from Deshazo's car after a 2011 arrest in connection with driving while intoxicated. Deshazo allegedly hasn't responded to a substance abuse monitoring program's attempts to contact him, and he withdrew from Washington State University's College of Pharmacy.

Clark County

In December 2014 the Naturopathy Board charged naturopathic physician **Corie Rose Edwards** (NT60244954) with unprofessional conduct. Edwards allegedly didn't meet the standard of care in issuing multiple medical marijuana authorizations. She allegedly didn't conduct adequate exams, didn't develop standard relationships with patients, didn't advise patients of other treatment options, and didn't keep adequate records. Charges say her "cursorious and below standard of care treatment in these marijuana mill-like practices inappropriately compromised individualized treatment and the image of the profession of naturopathic medicine."

In December 2014 the secretary of health granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Steven Lee Conner** (CO60485119) and placed him on probation. Conner must undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program and complete course work in professional law and ethics. He was convicted of minor in possession twice in 2010, and second-degree burglary in 2011.

In December 2014 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Stacy Jean Stalcup** (MA60188545) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly practiced massage after her credential expired.

In December 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Yan Min Niu** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Niu, who doesn't have a massage practitioner credential, allegedly engaged in massage practice with at least one patient.

Grays Harbor County

In December 2014 the secretary of health conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **William Nathan Lewis** (CO60511273), placed him on probation, and ordered him to undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2005 Lewis was convicted of two counts of forgery. In 2007 he was convicted of second-degree burglary and two counts of identity theft. In 2010 he was convicted of first-degree trafficking in stolen property and in 2012 he was convicted of second-degree theft.

King County

In December 2014 the secretary of health ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee and chemical dependency professional **Jeannette Wyatt** (CO60322340, CP60499386).

In December 2014 the secretary of health ended conditions on the credential of agency affiliated counselor **Articia Samona Venigas** (CG60229849).

In November 2014 the secretary of health denied a pharmacy assistant credential to **Tony H. Lee** (VB60122364). In 1993 Lee was convicted of third-degree malicious mischief. In 1994 he was convicted of second-degree and third-degree malicious mischief, and furnishing liquor to a minor—possession. In 2011 he was convicted of three counts of second-degree malicious mischief.

In November 2014 the secretary of health denied a registered medical assistant credential to **John H. Stephenson** (MR60476371). Stephenson received medical assistant-phlebotomist and certified nursing assistant credentials fraudulently after providing fictitious names and Social Security numbers, which he admitted while being investigated for allegations of improper conduct involving a patient. Stephenson hasn't responded to an inquiry from the Department of Health, which is seeking permanent revocation of his medical assistant-phlebotomist and certified nursing assistant credentials.

In December 2014 the Medical Commission ended conditions on the credential of physician **David N. Tran** (MD60279954).

In December 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Hassan Chihab** (DE00008366) with unprofessional conduct. Chihab allegedly employed workers who lacked credentials and qualifications for the duties they performed. Charges also say his office lacked life support and first aid documentation and equipment. He allegedly didn't record and submit spore tests to the Department of Health as the law requires, and couldn't produce required logs.

In December 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Cynthia Syll Bazil** (NA00185842) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Bazil, who worked for an in-home care agency, was assigned to care for two developmentally disabled vulnerable adults. She allegedly struck a patient with a spatula. Charges also say Bazil and another nursing assistant tied the two patients' bedroom doors to control their movements and keep them from leaving their rooms, and also tied one patient's hands together to further control the patient's movements.

Kitsap County

In December 2014 the secretary of health ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Cindy Christine Webb**, aka Cindy Kolp (CO60292075).

In December 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy assistant **Daniel A. Reyes** (VB00045386) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Reyes was convicted of one count of indecent liberties, five counts of second-degree dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, one count of sexual exploitation of a minor, one count of communication with a minor for immoral purposes, 10 counts of voyeurism, and seven counts of second-degree possession of depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

Mason County

In December 2014 the Medical Assistant Program charged certified medical assistant-phlebotomist **Teresa M. Horne** (PC60360165) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Horne was convicted of forgery and two counts of identity theft.

Skagit County

In December 2014 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program charged respiratory care practitioner **Alva George Abrams** (LR00000500) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Abrams was convicted of third-degree assault—domestic violence.

Skamania County

In December 2014 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Bernadette T. Campbell** (MA60169906) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Campbell hasn't responded to allegations that she practiced with an expired license for nearly nine months.

Thurston County

In November 2014 the secretary of health denied a massage practitioner credential to **Hui Ping Du** (MA60325423). Du paid someone to give her the answers to a required national exam.

In December 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Xiaolong Ma** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Ma, who has no reflexologist credential, allegedly was seen massaging the feet of two paying clients at a foot massage facility Ma owns.

Yakima County

In December 2014 the Dental Commission entered an agreement with dentist **Nomita S. Mehta** (DE00008769) that doesn't allow her to manage or take part in billing decisions at the dental practice where she works. She may not work for an office that she or a relative owns or manages. Mehta must perform 300 hours of volunteer dental work in lieu of paying a \$45,000 fine, and reimburse the commission for \$10,000 in expenses. A Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) audit determined that patient dental records had been altered 44 times in the days before the audit to justify services Mehta had billed for and DSHS had paid.

Out of State

California: In December 2014 the Naturopathy Board charged naturopathic physician **Edmund M. Corpuz** (NT00001270) with unprofessional conduct. Corpuz allegedly admitted treating patients over Skype with no visual or physical contact. Charges also say he didn't perform adequate exams and didn't keep any records for the patients he treated. Corpuz allegedly prescribed a substance for weight loss that isn't approved for that use, lacks evidence of being safe and effective, and has potentially serious side effects.

Oregon: In December 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Melinda Berger** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Berger doesn't have a massage practitioner license. She allegedly placed online advertisements offering full-body massages for \$200.

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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