



News Release

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Unlicensed naturopath ordered to stop practicing medicine immediately

OLYMPIA — State health officials have ordered Clarence Hugh Jonson to cease the practice of naturopathy pending further legal action.

Although Jonson has never held credentials to practice as a naturopath or physician in the state of Washington, he allegedly treated a patient for chest congestion and prescribed antibiotics. Charges also state that Jonson advertised he was “Board Certified in Naturopathy” and had extensive experience in areas such as acupuncture, internal medicine, pain management and diabetes.

Jonson has a criminal history including unlawful practice of medicine without a license, forging a prescription, unlawful use of medical device, illegal prescribing of Vicodin and insurance fraud.

The summary order to cease-and-desist starts the legal process to determine if Jonson committed unlicensed practice. He has 20 days from the date the notice is mailed to respond to the allegations and request a hearing. The documents related to the cease-and-desist order can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That’s also the number to call to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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](#).