



News Release

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OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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

Chelan County

In February 2015 the Hearing and Speech Board conditionally granted a speech-language pathologist credential to **Elizabeth Quinn Sprauer** (LL60334253), placed her on probation for at least two years, and fined her \$1,356.50. For about a year and a half, Sprauer performed the duties of a speech-language pathologist without an appropriate license. She showed a Department of Health investigator what looked like a speech-language pathologist license. Agency records don't show she had been issued such a license.

King County

In February 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for agency affiliated counselor **Joseph Andrew Black** (CG60311330).

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission reinstated the registered nurse credential of **William Michael Brothers** (RN00106317), whose credential was suspended in 1993. At that time, Brothers was required to get a substance abuse evaluation and provide proof of sobriety before seeking reinstatement.

Disciplinary actions

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In February 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Lynda Irene Qualls** (RN60270131) that reprimands her and fines her \$500. Qualls was disciplined in California in 2014 in connection with falsifying medication documentation five years earlier.

In January 2015 the Dental Commission denied a dental assistant credential to **Peter W. Eng** (D160527424). On his application, Eng said he'd never had disciplinary action taken against a health care license. In fact, in 2014 his certified nursing assistant credential was suspended for three years.

In March 2015 the Marriage and Family Therapist Program charged marriage and family therapist **Terri A. McLennan** (LF00002144) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say McLennan disclosed confidential information when she testified in a divorce case. She allegedly kept incomplete records and didn't properly assess or treat clients.

In March 2015 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Programs charged paramedic **Paul Duncan Ahrens** (ES01171411) with unprofessional conduct. While working for an emergency medical services agency, Ahrens allegedly diverted controlled substances for his own use and, in some cases, replaced them with other substances. Ahrens was charged in federal court with three counts of product tampering.

In March 2015 the Naturopathy Board ended conditions on the credential of naturopathic physician **Conan Jones** (NT60338505).

Lewis County

In February 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Ashley Nicole Edmonds** (NA60292529, NC60300211) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say that while Edmonds was working at a long-term care facility, she sprayed a resident in the face with water, placed a hand over the resident's mouth to stop the resident from yelling, and engaged in a verbal argument with a second resident.

Pierce County

In February 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee and chemical dependency professional **John Lawrence Churchward** (CO60261181, CP60437986).

In February 2015 the secretary of health conditionally granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Sean James Dallas** (CG60532737), placed him on probation and ordered him to undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. Between 1991 and 2011 Dallas was convicted of three felonies, six gross misdemeanors, and nine misdemeanors.

In February 2015 the secretary of health conditionally granted a dental hygienist credential to **Jennifer Michele Ellis** (DH60485635) and ordered her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. On her application, Ellis said she'd never been convicted of a crime. In 2011 and again in 2014 she was convicted of driving while intoxicated.

Snohomish County

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for registered nurse **Ann-Lisa Delight Gubbels** (RN60019565).

In February 2015 the secretary of health conditionally granted an interim medical assistant credential to **Nina N. Dashkovskaya** (IC60530277), who must comply with conditions she agreed to when her registered nursing assistant license was reinstated in 2014.

In March 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Hae Suk Han Lee** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges state that Lee doesn't have a massage practitioner license, but allegedly provided massage treatment to a client.

Spokane County

In February 2015 the Chiropractic Commission reinstated the credential of chiropractor **Stephen F. Renner** (CH00001206). His license was suspended in 2013 when he didn't comply with conditions of a 2011 agreement.

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for registered nurse **Cynthia S. Wachtel** (RN00155598).

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for licensed practical nurse **Elzbieta Ewa Archibald** (LP00040513).

Thurston County

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Carolyn Rhaye Brown** (LP60278957) that reinstates her license and places her on probation for at least two years. Brown's license was suspended in January 2015 after her California license was revoked when she practiced outside the scope of her license.

Whatcom County

In February 2015 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program charged chemical dependency professional **Sharon D. Burton** (CP00006249) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly improperly disclosed and discussed confidential information about clients.

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Kellie D. Deeter Larsen** (LP00054437) that places her on probation for at least three years. Larsen owned an adult family home that housed a patient who was repeatedly found soaked in urine.

Yakima County

In February 2015 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse

Cherish Ann Rydberg (RN00122355). She must re-enter a substance abuse monitoring program. Rydberg didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract that she agreed to in 2011, relapsing on methamphetamine, cannabis, and alcohol, and also testing positive for amphetamine.

In March 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Yueping Feng** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Feng allegedly charged a client \$60 for a massage despite not having a massage practitioner license.

Out of State

California: In March 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Pornpana Wasri** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges state that Wasri, who doesn't have a massage practitioner license, allegedly provided massage treatment to a client.

Idaho: In January 2015 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Cheryl L. Lane**, also known as Cheryl L. Hill (RN00133057), with unprofessional conduct. Lane allegedly gave medication to the wrong patient because she didn't verify the patient's identity.

North Carolina: In February 2015 the Nursing Commission conditionally granted registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner credentials to **Robert Matthew Cline** (RN60524186, AP60524188). Cline must undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2014 the Wyoming State Board of Nursing placed conditions on Cline's license in that state, including requiring him to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program.

Oregon: In March 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for health care assistant **Francisca Cruz** (HC60360511).

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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