State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

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., dentists, nurses, counselors). Information about disciplinary action taken against medical doctors and physician assistants can be found on the Washington Medical Commission (WMC) website. Questions about WMC disciplinary actions can be sent to media@wmc.wa.gov.

Information about health care providers is on the agency’s website. Click on “Look up a health care provider license” in the “How Do I?” section of the Department of Health home page (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 also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Clallam County

In August 2019 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner Joan Cornelia McCuen (RN60235239, AP60239504) with unprofessional conduct and immediately suspended her credentials. In 2019 McCuen surrendered her Oregon registered nurse and nurse practitioner credentials.

Clark County

In August 2019 the Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist Program agreed to indefinitely suspend the cardiovascular invasive specialist credential of Kirt Hughes (IS60691181). Hughes diverted a syringe of fentanyl meant for a patient and substituted another syringe that didn’t contain fentanyl.
In August 2019 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse Deanna Marie Hancock (RN60080320) with unprofessional conduct and immediately suspended her credential. In 2019 Hancock surrendered her Oregon registered nurse license.

**King County**

In August 2019 the Veterinary Board indefinitely suspended the veterinary technician credential of Jennifer M. Pride (AT60013793), who allegedly diverted controlled substances from her workplace.

In August 2019 the Pharmacy Commission agreed to indefinitely suspend the pharmacy technician credential of Ryan J. Hardiman (VA60450712), who admitted diverting controlled substances from the pharmacy where he worked.

**Mason County**

In August 2019 the secretary of health suspended for at least five years the medical assistant credential of Krystle Lee Qualls (CM60605628). Qualls drank four to five beers before chasing her 11-year-old daughter out of the house while holding a knife, and stating that she wanted to kill everyone. In 2018 Qualls was convicted of second-degree assault, with a deadly weapon sentencing enhancement.

**Pierce County**

In August 2019 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nurse credential of Barbara Lynn Millman (RN60235507). Millman worked at a rehabilitation facility that ran out of a medication that had been prescribed to a patient. Millman documented that the patient suffered ill effects, but didn’t check the patient’s vital signs and didn’t notify the director of nursing services.

In August 2019 the Pharmacy Commission indefinitely suspended the pharmacy assistant credential of Kasia LoDawn Richter (VB60629350), who took medication from a pharmacy where she worked.

**Snohomish County**

In August 2019 the secretary of health indefinitely suspended the registered nursing assistant credential of Sulayman Sidibeh (NA60682524). The state Department of Social and Health Services, which determined that Sidibeh neglected a vulnerable adult in his care, placed him on its long-term care abuse and neglect registry. That prohibits Sidibeh from being employed in caring for or having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

In August 2019 the secretary of health suspended for at least 10 years the certified nursing assistant license of George E. Tulus (NC10067864). Between March 2018 and May 2018, Tulus

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engaged in sexual intercourse with a hospital patient to whom he provided care. Tulus has been charged with second-degree rape.

**Spokane County**

In August 2019 the Home Care Aide and Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems programs agreed to suspend for at least five years the home care aide and emergency medical technician credentials of **Kimberly Faye Alstrom** (HM60349812, ES60756535). Alstrom admitted having a romantic and sexual relationship with a patient at an assisted living facility where she worked.

In August 2019 the secretary of health suspended for at least 10 years the registered nursing assistant license of **Peniasi Siga** (NA00114606). While working in an assisted living facility, Siga was seen in a patient’s room while the patient’s genitals were exposed. Siga was kneeling near the patient’s waist. Siga was also seen in another patient’s room exposing his own genitals. Both patients had been admitted to the facility because they didn’t have the ability to care for themselves. Siga has been charged with two counts of attempted indecent liberties.

In August 2019 the secretary of health suspended for at least 12 months the registered nursing assistant credential of **Joshua Steven Csiti** (NA60123181). The state Department of Social and Health Services determined that Csiti neglected a vulnerable adult, and placed him on its long-term care abuse and neglect registry. That bars him from being employed in caring for or having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

In July 2019 the Medical Assistant and X-Ray Technician programs indefinitely suspended the medical assistant and X-ray technician credentials of **Estella Maria Herbst** (CM60574399, XT60746632), who didn’t comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

**Out of State**

**Georgia:** In August 2019 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Karen Lynn Palmer** (RN60596329) with unprofessional conduct and immediately suspended her credential. In 2017 Palmer surrendered her Connecticut, South Dakota, Wyoming, Texas, and Iowa registered nurse licenses, and did same in Ohio in 2018. Her Georgia nurse license was restricted in 2017. That same year, her Arizona registered nurse license application was denied.

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