AMENDED ORDER SANCTIONING EMT Certification

TO: Samson, Casey PSID No.: 3353-8349

ORDER No.: S019-2024 Amended DATE ISSUED: October 3, 2024

METHOD OF SERVICE: Email to: casey@samsonleather.com (ACADIS Certification Record Email)

Pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 and Indiana Code § 16-31-3-14, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (Department) enters this Findings and Order regarding the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification held by **Casey Samson** (Respondent), PSID #: **3353-8349**.

i. FINDINGS

- 1. Respondent holds an EMT certificate, with an expiration date of September 30, 2024.
- 2. On or about September 17, 2024, Respondent submitted a renewal application for certification/licensure using the ACADIS on-line portal system. In the system, the following affirmation by Respondent was made:
 - a. Applicant Affirmation:

I hereby affirm, under the penalty of perjury, that all statements contained in this application are true and correct. I understand that falsifying statements or documents may be cause for disciplinary action by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, and that the disciplinary action may include revocation of certification. I also understand that Emergency Medical Services Commission may conduct an audit of the recertification documents listed at any time. Furthermore, I understand that it is prohibited to initiate a subsequent on-line renewal attempt for a certification for which I have an audit pending, and that I have not been notified during a previous attempt that my application for renewal has been audited.

b. Applicant Response:

All requirements for this certification or license have been met, and the applicant attests that the above statements are true

3. On September 17, 2024, Respondent emailed the department informing that he accidently renewed his EMT certification. Respondent's email is as followed; "I clicked "Save for Later" not Submit. I am not ready – I still have until the 30th. I have been doing my CE but need to check if it was 34 hours or 40 hours. I have scheduled CE next week as well. I am fine for the doing the audit, but I was NOT ready to submit nor did I confirm it. Can someone please help?"

- 4. On September 29, 2024, Respondent submitted initial paperwork in response to the audit 12 days after renewal via Acadis. The audit paperwork had the following deficiencies:
 - a. The application cover sheet included the required signature for Respondent. However, signature was executed on September 29, 2024, which is 12 days after the submission of the portal renewal which indicates that on September 17, 2024.
 - b. According to the submitted paperwork it is recorded that only 9 hours of continuing education was completed, prior to the renewal submission. Of those 9 hours, 3 hours of audit and review, 4 hours of CPR, 1 hour of driving safety, and 1 hour of abdominal trauma.
 - c. Documents submitted show that he completed 27.75 hours of continuing education after the renewal submission date, between September 17, 2024, to September 29, 2024, with a cumulative total of 33.75 hours of continuing education, still deficient of 0.25 hours.
 - d. Documentation shows that 8.75 hours of audit and review were completed after the submitted renewal date. Verification of skills were completed and signed but were all completed and signed on September 29, 2024.

II. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING LAW

- 5. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(4), the Department issue a letter of reprimand if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 6. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(5), the Department may assess a civil penalty against the certificate holder or license holder if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 7. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(7) and (b)(1), the Department may revoke a certificate holder's certificate for a period not to exceed seven (7) years if the certificate holder fails to comply and maintain compliance with or violates any applicable provision, standard, or other requirement of Indiana Code article 16-31 or rules adopted under this article.
- 8. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(7) and (b)(6), the Department may place a certificate holder on probation if the certificate holder fails to comply and maintain compliance with or violates any applicable provision, standard, or other requirement of Indiana Code article 16-31 or rules adopted under this article.
- 9. On May 14, 2020, the Indiana EMS Commission approved a non-rule policy on Certifications Renewal Dishonesty that indicates that when a renewal application submitted on-line results in the Applicant acknowledging during the audit that they failed to have enough hours or skills when they renewed on-line—hence they were not eligible to recertify (regardless of whether they intentionally

attempted or failed to verify before submitting) then Sanction will be a seven (7) day suspension followed by a two (2) year probation period during which the applicant must 1) obtain the hours or skills they were short within 30 days; 2) must have a manual certification renewal with audit for their next certification cycle and 3) must pay a \$200.00 fine.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. The Department finds that Respondent's submission of his initial on-line audit while missing substantially his continuing education hours and not having obtained all required signatures at the time of electronic submission violates the EMS Commission non-rule policy and that Respondent is therefore subject to sanction pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2).

IV. ORDER

Based upon the Findings set forth above, the Department Orders the following sanction:

- 11. Respondent is assessed a \$200.00 civil penalty that must be paid within 30 days of this Order. Civil penalties may be paid via credit card or via check payable/money order payable to the "IDHS-Emergency Medical Services Education Fund." Payment may be mailed to the address in #6 below. Payment by credit card may be done by obtaining and completing a credit card authorization form via emscertifications@dhs.in.gov. Note that by statute, "if the certificate holder or license holder fails to pay the civil penalty within the time specified...the department may suspend the certificate holder's certificate or license holder's license without additional proceedings."
- 12. A 7-day suspension as referenced by the non-rule policy is deferred and will be waived if Respondent successfully completes his probationary period. This is due to the fact that Respondent mitigated his action by completing his continuing education hours before the expiration albeit after the attempted renewal.
- 13. Respondent's EMT certification will be placed on a two-year probation period. The following conditions shall apply during the two (2) year probationary period:
 - a. Respondent's EMT certification and PSID status shall contain a Letter of Reprimand.
 - b. Respondent shall not renew via his Acadis portal account for his next renewal of 09/30/2026. Respondent is required to submit paperwork for a manual audit for his next renewal cycle.
 - c. Respondent shall keep the Department informed of Respondent's current home address, home

telephone number, cellular telephone numbers, pager numbers, and work telephone numbers. Respondent shall inform the Department of any changes in this information within seven (7) calendar days of the change. The initial list of such information shall be delivered to the Department not later than fifteen (15) calendar days from the Effective Date of this Findings and Order.

- d. Before Respondent may work for any EMS provider certified by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, Respondent shall provide to the Department a completed copy of the attached Affirmation: Exhibit A with an original signature from that provider's EMS Director. (Please keep a blank copy of the Affirmation to provide to future EMS employers).
- e. During the period of probation, if Respondent is arrested or charged with violating the criminal law of any jurisdiction, other than a minor traffic violation, Respondent shall notify the Department in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of being arrested or charged. Such notification may be made orally but must be followed by written confirmation within twenty-four (24) hours of the oral notification.
- f. Should Respondent violate terms of this probation or be deemed unfit to provide care as an EMT due to his condition, the Department may issue a new administrative order.
- g. Respondent's certification may be suspended or revoked for any of the following:
 - i. Violation of the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction;
 - ii. Conviction under the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction; or
 - iii. Failure to comply with a condition of this Findings and Order.
- h. If the Department determines that Respondent has violated any term or condition of this Findings and Order, the Indiana Administrative code or the Indiana Code, then the Department may seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation.
- 14. All submittals required by this Findings and Order, unless notified in writing otherwise, shall be sent to:

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Secretary 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

15. In the event that any term of this Findings and Order is found to be invalid, the remaining terms shall remain in full force and effect and shall be construed and enforced as if the Findings and Order did not contain the invalid term.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE OF FINDINGS AND ORDER

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 of the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act, this Findings and Order is effective fifteen (15) calendar days from the date this Findings and Order is served, unless both a written petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this fifteen (15) calendar day period. If you are served by United States mail, three (3) additional days will be added to this fifteen (15) day period – extending the period to eighteen (18) days. If both a petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this time period, the portions of this Findings and Order, that are within the scope of the petition for review and the petition for stay of effectiveness, are stayed for fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of service. This stay may be extended upon consent of the Department or by order of an administrative law judge, who shall conduct a preliminary hearing as soon as practicable to determine whether this Findings and Order should be stayed in whole or in part.

IV. APPEAL RIGHTS

This order is final and effective fifteen (15) days after service. If you desire administrative review of this order by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, you must comply with the requirements of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-7 and file a written petition for review within fifteen (15) days of the earliest date this order was served. Your petition for review must state facts demonstrating that you are: (1) a person to whom the order is specifically directed; (2) aggrieved or adversely affected by the order; or (3) entitled to review under any law. You may submit your petition by the following methods:

U.S. MAIL OR PERSONAL SERVICE
Emergency Medical Services Commission
c/o Legal Counsel
302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

ONLINE

By completing the form at
https://www.in.gov/dhs/4148.htm

If you comply with the above requirements, your petition will be granted and will be assigned to an administrative law judge for review. If a petition for review is not timely filed, then this order will become final.

For additional information about the administrative review process, visit the following link https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm.

SO ORDERED.

By: Kraig Kinney, Director

Emergency Medical Services

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Date

Oct 3, 2024

EXHIBIT A

AFFIRMATION OF EMS DIRECTOR

I swear or affirm that I have received a copy of the Findings and Order issued by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security placing Casey Samson's (PSID#: 3353-8349) EMT certification on probation.

EMS DIRECTOR:		
Signature	Date Signed	
Printed Name	Telephone Number	
Organization Name		-

Please return completed form to:

Office of Emergency Medical Service
Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Attn: EMS Certifications
302 W. Washington Street Rm. E239
Indianapolis, IN 46204
emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

ORDER SANCTIONING EMT Certification & Paramedic License

TO: Lucinda K. Ledbetter PSID No.: 9777-7425 ORDER No.: 0022-2024 DATE ISSUED: 11/13/2024

METHOD OF SERVICE: Email to: lucindasmt@yahoo.com (ACADIS Certification Record Email)

Pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 and Indiana Code § 16-31-3-14, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (Department) enters this Findings and Order in regard to the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification and paramedic license held by **Lucinda K. Ledbetter** (Respondent), PSID #: 9777-7425.

I. FINDINGS

- 1. Respondent holds an EMT certification that expires on 09/30/2026, and a paramedic license that expired on 09/30/2024.
- 2. On or about 09/16/2024, Respondent submitted a renewal application for certification/licensure using the ACADIS on-line portal system. In the system, the following affirmation by Respondent was made:
 - a. Applicant Affirmation:

I hereby affirm, under the penalty of perjury, that all statements contained in this application are true and correct. I understand that falsifying statements or documents may be cause for disciplinary action by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, and that the disciplinary action may include revocation of certification. I also understand that Emergency Medical Services Commission may conduct an audit of the recertification documents listed at any time. Furthermore, I understand that it is prohibited to initiate a subsequent on-line renewal attempt for a certification for which I have an audit pending, and that I have not been notified during a previous attempt that my application for renewal has been audited.

- b. Applicant Response:
- All requirements for this certification or license have been met, and the applicant attests that the above statements are true
- 3. On 10/03/2024, Respondent submitted initial paperwork in response to the audit. The audit paperwork had the following deficiencies which resulted in an incomplete application at the time it was submitted:

- a. The application cover sheet included the required signatures for Respondent, the Respondent's affiliated provider organization director. The supervising hospital section was not completed and did not have a signature attached. The medical director section was not completed and did not have a signature attached. Respondent had NOT completed all her recertification requirements which included obtaining those signatures prior to on-line renewal.
- b. The respondent documented all her continuing education but signed all her own continuing education for herself and her skills verification.
- 4. On 10/07/2024 an email was sent back to the respondent that informed her that she cannot sign her own continuing education. At this time, it was requested that she send her certificate of completion for the education or the rosters for the course that was offered. She was also informed that she needed to get the signature from her supervising hospital and medical director.
- On 10/09/2024 the respondent uploaded her certificate of completions for all the documented hours of continuing education. She still has not uploaded the signed documentation from her medical director or supervising hospital.
- 6. On 10/30/2024 the respondent did not respond to any emails or calls, and it has been over 14 days since she last sent any emails. Her application was auto rejected by Acadis.
- 7. On 11/12/2024 the respondent sent her signed documentation with her medical director's signature on it, signed 10/15/2024, but still did not have a signature from the supervising hospital.

II. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING LAW

- 1. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(4), the Department issue a letter of reprimand if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 2. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(5), the Department may assess a civil penalty against the certificate holder or license holder if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 3. On May 14, 2020, the Indiana EMS Commission approved a non-rule policy on Certifications Renewal Dishonesty that indicates that 1) submission of a renewal application is an intentional act and that IDHS will not accept claims of "accidental" recertification or claims that the person did not realize that they were not compliant and 2) set the sanction for failing to obtain all required signatures BEFORE submitting the application as a private reprimand and \$100.00 fine.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department finds that Respondent's submission of her EMS continuing education verification while not having obtained all required signatures at the time of electronic submission and delays in audit compliance violate the EMS Commission non-rule policy and that Respondent is therefore subject to sanction pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2).

IV. ORDER

Based upon the Findings set forth above, the Department Orders the following sanction:

- 1. Respondent is assessed a \$50.00 civil penalty for lack of signatures and a \$50.00 late fee for late submission of verifications that must be paid within 60 days of this Order. Civil penalties may be paid via credit card or via check payable/money order payable to the "IDHS-Emergency Medical Services Education Fund." Payment may be mailed to the address in #6 below. Payment by credit card may be done by obtaining and completing a credit card authorization form via emscertifications@dhs.in.gov. Note that by statute, "if the certificate holder or license holder fails to pay the civil penalty within the time specified...the department may suspend the certificate holder's certificate or license holder's license without additional proceedings."
- 2. Respondent's EMT certification and paramedic license and PSID status shall contain a Letter of Reprimand.
 - a. A Letter of Reprimand is issued when the Department has determined a violation has occurred and wants to emphasize that the action was unacceptable under the EMS Code and rules, but further action on the certification or license is not necessary.
 - b. Unlike a Censure, which is a publicly listed, a Letter of Reprimand is not actively publicized by the Department but could be subject to disclosure under a public records request.
 - c. A Letter of Reprimand may be used as an aggravating factor if there is a future instance of disciplinary sanction by the Department.
- 3. All submittals required by this Findings and Order, unless notified in writing otherwise, shall be sent to:

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Secretary 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

4. In the event that any term of this Findings and Order is found to be invalid, the remaining terms shall remain in full force and effect and shall be construed and enforced as if the Findings and Order did not contain the invalid term.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE OF FINDINGS AND ORDER

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 of the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act, this Findings and Order is effective fifteen (15) calendar days from the date this Findings and Order is served, unless both a written petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this fifteen (15) calendar day period. If you are served by United States mail, three (3) additional days will be added to this fifteen (15) day period – extending the period to eighteen (18) days. If both a petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this time period, the portions of this Findings and Order, that are within the scope of the petition for review and the petition for stay of effectiveness, are stayed for fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of service. This stay may be extended upon consent of the Department or by order of an administrative law judge, who shall conduct a preliminary hearing as soon as practicable to determine whether this Findings and Order should be stayed in whole or in part.

IV. APPEAL RIGHTS

This order is final and effective fifteen (15) days after service. If you desire administrative review of this order by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, you must comply with the requirements of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-7 and file a written petition for review within fifteen (15) days of the earliest date this order was served. Your petition for review must state facts demonstrating that you are: (1) a person to whom the order is specifically directed; (2) aggrieved or adversely affected by the order; or (3) entitled to review under any law. You may submit your petition by the following methods:

U.S. MAIL OR PERSONAL SERVICE Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Legal Counsel 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, IN 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov ONLINE

By completing the form at

https://www.in.gov/dhs/4148.htm

If you comply with the above requirements, your petition will be granted and will be assigned to an administrative law judge for review. If a petition for review is not timely filed, then this order will become final.

For additional information about the administrative review process, visit the following link https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm.

SO ORDERED.

By: Kraig Kinney, Director

Thany Kinny

Emergency Medical Services

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

November13, 2024

Date

ORDER SANCTIONING EMT Certification

TO: Samantha Jayne Lowe

PSID No.: 6724-4688 ORDER No.: 0021-2024 DATE ISSUED: 11/13/2024

METHOD OF SERVICE: Email to: samilowe1946@yahoo.com (ACADIS Certification Record Email)

Pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 and Indiana Code § 16-31-3-14, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (Department) enters this Findings and Order in regard to the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification held by **Samantha Jayne Lowe** (Respondent), PSID #: **6724-6488**.

i. FINDINGS

- 1. Respondent holds an EMT certification with an expiration date of 09/30/2026.
- 2. On or about October 14, 2024, respondent sent an email with continuing education hours attached to it. She was requesting to renew her EMT certification past the expiration date. It was noted at this time that there were dates and times that were edited with white out. Dates and times were noted to be handwritten in the spaces. These dates and times did not match with the dates and times that were indicated in Acadis.
- On October 15, 2024, an email was sent back to the respondent, informing her that the hours and courses she sent in were not going to be accepted, due to the changed dates and times on the documents.
- On October 20, 2024, respondent sent an email to IDHS with education hours and certificate of completions attached. The respondent's certification was renewed and payment of \$50.00 was collected.
- 5. On November 12, 2024, after investigation of the respondents continuing education hours it was found that the respondent documented 21.5 hours were obtained outside of the certification cycle of 12/16/22 and 09/30/24. 17 hours were obtained prior to 12/16/22. 4.5 hours were obtained after 09/30/22 and after the first notification of the hours not being accepted. 15 hours were obtained within the certification cycle.

II. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING LAW

- 6. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(4), the Department issue a letter of reprimand if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 7. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(5), the Department may assess a civil penalty against the certificate holder or license holder if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 8. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(b)(6), the Department may place a certificate or license holder on probation if the certificate or license holder is subject to sanctions under IC 16-31-3-14(a).
- 9. On May 14, 2020, the Indiana EMS Commission approved a non-rule policy on Certifications Renewal Dishonesty that indicates that 1) submission of a renewal application is an intentional act and that IDHS will not accept claims of "accidental" recertification or claims that the person did not realize that they were not compliant and 2) set the sanction for failing to obtain all required signatures BEFORE submitting the application as a private reprimand and \$50.00 fine. The policy also provides a fine of up to \$200.00 for hours reported as complete at the time of submission but completed after the submission during the audit.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. The Department finds that Respondent's submission of her EMS continuing education renewal application without having signatures and full hours completed at the time of submission due to hours not obtained within her certification cycle period is a violation of the EMS Commission non-rule policy, and that Respondent is therefore subject to sanction pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2).

IV. ORDER

Based upon the Findings set forth above, the Department Orders the following sanction:

- 11. Respondent's EMT certification and PSID status shall contain a Letter of Reprimand.
 - a. A Letter of Reprimand is issued when the Department has determined a violation has occurred and wants to emphasize that the action was unacceptable under the EMS Code and rules, but further action on the certification or license is not necessary.

- b. Unlike a Censure, which is a publicly listed, a Letter of Reprimand is not actively publicized by the Department but could be subject to disclosure under a public records request.
- c. A Letter of Reprimand may be used as an aggravating factor if there is a future instance of disciplinary sanction by the Department.
- 12. Respondent is assessed a \$100.00 civil penalty that must be paid within 30 days of this Order. Respondent has already submitted \$50.00 towards the penalty as a late payment attempt and is credited that amount. Civil penalties may be paid via credit card or via check payable/money order payable to the "IDHS-Emergency Medical Services Education Fund." Payment may be mailed to the address in #6 below. Payment by credit card may be done by obtaining and completing a credit card authorization form via emscertifications@dhs.in.gov. Note that by statute, "if the certificate holder or license holder fails to pay the civil penalty within the time specified...the department may suspend the certificate holder's certificate or license holder's license without additional proceedings."
- 13. The Department will issue the EMT certification renewal that will be subject to a two-year probationary period and a manual renewal recertification. The following conditions shall apply during the two (2) year probationary period:
 - a. Respondent shall keep the Department informed of Respondent's current home address, home telephone number, cellular telephone numbers, pager numbers, and work telephone numbers. Respondent shall inform the Department of any changes to this information within seven (7) calendar days of the change. The initial list of such information shall be delivered to the Department not later than fifteen (15) calendar days from the Effective Date of this Findings and Order.
 - b. Before Respondent may work for any EMS provider certified by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, Respondent shall provide to the Department a completed copy of the attached Affirmation: Exhibit A with an original signature from that provider's EMS Director. (Please keep a blank copy of the Affirmation to provide to future EMS employers).
 - c. During the period of probation, if Respondent is arrested or charged with violating the criminal law of any jurisdiction, other than a minor traffic violation, Respondent shall notify the Department in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of being arrested or charged. Such notification may be made orally but must be followed by written confirmation within twenty-four (24) hours of the oral notification.
 - d. Should Respondent violate terms of this probation or be deemed unfit to provide care as an EMR due to his condition, the Department may issue a new administrative order.
 - e. Respondent's certification may be suspended or revoked for any of the following:

- i. Violation of the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction;
- ii. Conviction under the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction; or
- iii. Failure to comply with a condition of this Findings and Order.
- f. If the Department determines that Respondent has violated any term or condition of these Findings and Order, the Indiana Administrative Code or the Indiana Code, then the Department may seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation.
- 14. All submittals required by this Findings and Order, unless notified in writing otherwise, shall be sent to:

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Secretary 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

15. In the event that any term of this Findings and Order is found to be invalid, the remaining terms shall remain in full force and effect and shall be construed and enforced as if the Findings and Order did not contain the invalid term.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE OF FINDINGS AND ORDER

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 of the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act, this Findings and Order is effective fifteen (15) calendar days from the date this Findings and Order is served, unless both a written petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this fifteen (15) calendar day period. If you are served by United States mail, three (3) additional days will be added to this fifteen (15) day period – extending the period to eighteen (18) days. If both a petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this time period, the portions of this Findings and Order, that are within the scope of the petition for review and the petition for stay of effectiveness, are stayed for fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of service. This stay may be extended upon consent of the Department or by order of an administrative law judge, who shall conduct a preliminary hearing as soon as practicable to determine whether this Findings and Order should be stayed in whole or in part.

IV. APPEAL RIGHTS

This order is final and effective fifteen (15) days after service. If you desire administrative review of this order by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, you must comply with the requirements of

Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-7 and file a written petition for review within fifteen (15) days of the earliest date this order was served. Your petition for review must state facts demonstrating that you are: (1) a person to whom the order is specifically directed; (2) aggrieved or adversely affected by the order; or (3) entitled to review under any law. You may submit your petition by the following methods:

U.S. MAIL OR PERSONAL SERVICE Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Legal Counsel 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, IN 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov ONLINE

By completing the form at https://www.in.gov/dhs/4148.htm

If you comply with the above requirements, your petition will be granted and will be assigned to an administrative law judge for review. If a petition for review is not timely filed, then this order will become final.

For additional information about the administrative review process, visit the following link https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm.

SO ORDERED.

By: Kraig Kinney, Director

Thanky Kirmy

Emergency Medical Services

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

November 13, 2024

Date

ORDER SANCTIONING Paramedic License

TO: Andrew James Storm PSID No.: 1079-7676 ORDER No.: S0020-2024

DATE ISSUED: October 3, 2024

METHOD OF SERVICE: Email to: ajstorm24@gmail.com (ACADIS Certification Record Email)

Pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 and Indiana Code § 16-31-3-14, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (Department) enters this Findings and Order in regard to the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification and Paramedic License held by **Andrew James Storm** (Respondent), PSID #: **1079-7676**.

I. FINDINGS

- 1. Respondent holds an EMT certification and Paramedic license, both with an expiration date of June 30, 2025, with a pervious expiration date of June 30, 2025.
- On or about June 3, 2023, Respondent submitted a renewal application for certification/licensure using the ACADIS on-line portal system. In the system, the following affirmation by Respondent was made:
 - a. Applicant Affirmation:

I hereby affirm, under the penalty of perjury, that all statements contained in this application are true and correct. I understand that falsifying statements or documents may be cause for disciplinary action by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, and that the disciplinary action may include revocation of certification. I also understand that Emergency Medical Services Commission may conduct an audit of the recertification documents listed at any time. Furthermore, I understand that it is prohibited to initiate a subsequent on-line renewal attempt for a certification for which I have an audit pending, and that I have not been notified during a previous attempt that my application for renewal has been audited.

b. Applicant Response:

All requirements for this certification or license have been met, and the applicant attests that the above statements are true

3. On September 20, 2024, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, received multiple phone calls informing the department that Respondent, had said that he renewed his paramedic license

- knowingly not having the required continuing education requirements completed. At this time the responded was notified of that an off cycle manual audit was to be completed.
- 4. On or about September 24, 2024, respondent contacted the department by phone to schedule an in-person meeting for a manual audit of his continuing education. Respondent has been cooperative and cited extenuating personal circumstances for not having his full documentation. Respondent denies that he made comments about not having his certification hours.
- September 27, 2024, responded arrived at the department for his in-person meeting and manual audit. Although the audit was about a year following his on-line renewal, Respondent had challenges producing full documentation. The following deficiencies were noted
 - a. Respondent did not initially have all his paperwork. He did not complete a State continuing education form but rather gathered the supporting documents.
 - Respondent was able to validate the bulk of his reported hours but was not able to provider full verification for the following airway hours, OB/Peds hours, and Audit and Review hours.
 - 2. He was also missing skills validation in OB/Gynecological, and Communication and Documentation.

II. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING LAW

- 6. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(4), the Department issues a letter of reprimand if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 7. Pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2) and (b)(5), the Department may assess a civil penalty against the certificate holder or license holder if the certificate or license holder engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate or license.
- 8. On May 14, 2020, the Indiana EMS Commission approved a non-rule policy on Certifications Renewal Dishonesty that indicates that 4. Renewal application submitted on-line. Applicant believed they had all continuing education hours, but audit rejected portions of their continuing education hours or skills verification as not eligible, and staff determines that the oversight was not in good faith due to not being a reasonable listing (not remotely related to EMS) or multiple hours of continuing education that were not eligible. The policy sets the sanction as a seven-day suspension followed by a two year probation period during which the applicant must 1) obtain the hours or skills they were short within 30 days; 2) must have a manual certification renewal with audit for their next certification cycle and 3) must pay a \$200.00 fine.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

9. The Department finds that Respondent's submission of his estimated continuing education at the time of his renewal without verification of his hours at the time of electronic submission violates the EMS Commission non-rule policy and that Respondent is therefore subject to sanction pursuant to IC 16-31-3-14(a)(2).

IV. ORDER

Based upon the Findings set forth above, the Department Orders the following sanction:

- 10. Due to the delay of the audit and requiring records from 2021-2023, the Department has afforded some consideration and is not issuing a suspension. It is also noted that Respondent is employed and his employer will work cooperate with his probation.
- 11. Respondent is issued a 7-day suspension that is deferred and will be completely waived should Respondent successfully complete his two-year probationary period.
- 12. Respondent is assessed a \$200.00 civil penalty that must be paid within 30 days of this Order. Civil penalties may be paid via credit card or via check payable/money order payable to the "IDHS-Emergency Medical Services Education Fund." Payment may be mailed to the address in #6 below. Payment by credit card may be done by obtaining and completing a credit card authorization form via emscertifications@dhs.in.gov. Note that by statute, "if the certificate holder or license holder fails to pay the civil penalty within the time specified...the department may suspend the certificate holder's certificate or license holder's license without additional proceedings."
- 13. Respondent's EMT certification and Paramedic license will be placed on a two-year probation period with the following terms related to his probationary period:
 - a. Respondent shall not renew via his Acadis portal account for his next renewal of 06/30/2025. Respondent is required to submit paperwork for a manual audit for his next renewal cycle. Respondent must be fully compliant with continuing education requirements and paperwork requirements or the 7-day suspension will be issued.
 - b. Respondent shall keep the Department informed of Respondent's current home address, home telephone number, cellular telephone numbers, pager numbers, and work telephone numbers. Respondent shall inform the Department of any changes in this information within seven (7) calendar days of the change. The initial list of such information shall be delivered to the Department not later than fifteen (15) calendar days from the Effective Date of this Findings and Order.

- c. Before Respondent may work for any EMS provider certified by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, Respondent shall provide to the Department a completed copy of the attached Affirmation: Exhibit A with an original signature from that provider's EMS Director. (Please keep a blank copy of the Affirmation to provide to future EMS employers).
- d. During the period of probation, if Respondent is arrested or charged with violating the criminal law of any jurisdiction, other than a minor traffic violation, Respondent shall notify the Department in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of being arrested or charged. Such notification may be made orally but must be followed by written confirmation within twenty-four (24) hours of the oral notification.
 - i. Should Respondent violate terms of this probation or be deemed unfit to provide care as an EMT or paramedic due to his condition, the Department may issue a new administrative order.
- e. Respondent's certification may be suspended or revoked for any of the following:
 - i. Violation of the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction;
 - ii. Conviction under the criminal statutes in any jurisdiction; or
 - iii. Failure to comply with a condition of this Findings and Order.
- f. If the Department determines that Respondent has violated any term or condition of this Findings and Order, the Indiana Administrative code or the Indiana Code, then the Department may seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation.
- 14. All submittals required by this Findings and Order, unless notified in writing otherwise, shall be sent to:

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Secretary 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov

15. In the event that any term of this Findings and Order is found to be invalid, the remaining terms shall remain in full force and effect and shall be construed and enforced as if the Findings and Order did not contain the invalid term.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF FINDINGS AND ORDER

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 of the Administrative Orders and Procedures Act, this Findings and Order is effective fifteen (15) calendar days from the date this Findings and Order is served, unless both a written petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this fifteen (15) calendar day period. If you are served by United States mail, three (3) additional days will be added to this fifteen (15) day period – extending the period to eighteen (18) days. If both a petition for review and a petition for stay of effectiveness are filed within this time period, the portions of this Findings and Order, that are within the scope of the petition for review and the petition for stay of effectiveness, are stayed for fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of service. This stay may be extended upon consent of the Department or by order of an administrative law judge, who shall conduct a preliminary hearing as soon as practicable to determine whether this Findings and Order should be stayed in whole or in part.

IV. APPEAL RIGHTS

This order is final and effective fifteen (15) days after service. If you desire administrative review of this order by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, you must comply with the requirements of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-7 and file a written petition for review within fifteen (15) days of the earliest date this order was served. Your petition for review must state facts demonstrating that you are: (1) a person to whom the order is specifically directed; (2) aggrieved or adversely affected by the order; or (3) entitled to review under any law. You may submit your petition by the following methods:

U.S. MAIL OR PERSONAL SERVICE Emergency Medical Services Commission c/o Legal Counsel 302 W. Washington Street, Rm. E208 Indianapolis, IN 46204 emscertifications@dhs.in.gov ONLINE

By completing the form at
https://www.in.gov/dhs/4148.htm

If you comply with the above requirements, your petition will be granted and will be assigned to an administrative law judge for review. If a petition for review is not timely filed, then this order will become final.

For additional information about the administrative review process, visit the following link https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm.

SO ORDERED.

By: Kraig Kinney, Director Emergency Medical Services

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Date

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EXHIBIT A

AFFIRMATION OF EMS DIRECTOR

I swear or affirm that I have received a copy of the Findings and Order issued by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security placing **Andrew James Storm's** (PSID#: 1079-7676) EMT certification and paramedic licensure on probation.

EMS DIRECTOR:		
Signature	Date Signed	
Printed Name	Telephone Number	_
Organization Name		

Please return completed form to:

Office of Emergency Medical Service
Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Attn: EMS Certifications
302 W. Washington Street Rm. E239
Indianapolis, IN 46204
emscertifications@dhs.in.gov