

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
OPERATIONS BRANCH**

In re: Matthew C. Barrera, Paramedic

Petition No. 2006-1026-072-004

**CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, Matthew C. Barrera of Manchester (hereinafter "respondent") has been issued license number 001411 to practice as a Paramedic by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 384d of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

1. At all relevant times respondent worked as a Paramedic for the East Hartford Fire Department in East Hartford, Connecticut.
2. On about September 14, 2006 respondent treated a female patient. Respondent conducted a visual assessment of a female patient. Respondent failed to check for lung and heart sounds, examine the pupils of the eyes, monitor the patient with an electrocardiograph and failed to reposition the patient's airway and assess for respirations. Respondent concluded the patient was deceased, but she was alive.
3. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-206nn(5).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for

purposes of this or any future proceedings before a Hearing Officer, this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-180, 19a-14 and 20-206nn of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-180 and 20-206nn of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives his right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) by certified or cashier's check payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut." The check shall reference the Petition Number on the face of the check, and shall be payable at the time respondent submits the executed Consent Order to the Department.
3. Respondent's license shall be placed on probation for a period of two (2) years under the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent shall provide his chief of service, employer, partner and/or associate at any hospital, clinic, partnership and/or association at which he is employed or with which he is affiliated or has privileges at each place where respondent practices as a Paramedic throughout the probationary period, with a copy of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of its effective date, or within fifteen (15) days of commencement of employment at a new facility. Respondent agrees to provide reports from such employer quarterly for the duration of the probationary period, stating that respondent is practicing with reasonable skill and safety.
  - b. Respondent shall provide his sponsor hospital and his employer at each place where respondent practices as a Paramedic with a copy of this Consent Order, for the duration of his probation.

4. All correspondence and reports are to be addressed to:

Jay Nowakowski, R.N.  
Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12EMS  
P.O. Box 340308  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

5. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
6. Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to his licensure.
7. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
8. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:
- a. The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
  - b. Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.
  - c. Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 8a above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that he has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that he has cured the violation in question.
  - d. If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation within the fifteen (15) days specified in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, he shall be entitled to a hearing before a Hearing Officer which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.

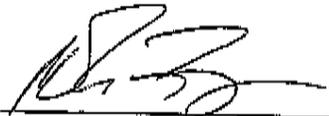
- e. Evidence presented to the Hearing Officer by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
9. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of his license before a Hearing Officer.
10. In the event respondent is not employed as a Paramedic for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, or is employed outside of the State of Connecticut, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of time shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order.
11. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Operations Branch of the Department.
12. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Department.
13. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed a public document, and the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before a Hearing Officer in which his compliance with this Consent Order or with §20-206nn of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order, except for a civil penalty, shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
14. In the event respondent violates a term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a Paramedic, upon request by the

Department, for a period not to exceed 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said 45-day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Hearing Officer and shall, as a matter of law, constitute a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). The Department and respondent understand that the Hearing Officer has complete and final discretion as to whether a summary suspension is ordered.

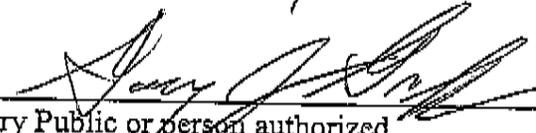
15. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from taking action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
16. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Further, this Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that he may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.
17. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.

18. Respondent permits a representative of the Legal Office of the Healthcare Systems Branch to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Department. Respondent understands that the Department has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.
19. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
20. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the Bureau Chief of the Division of Criminal Justice's Statewide Prosecution Bureau.

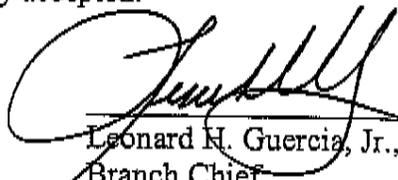
I, Matthew C. Barrera, have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

  
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Matthew C. Barrera, Paramedic

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2008.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public or person authorized  
by law to administer an oath or affirmation  
*My Commission Expires: 07-31-2012*

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 21 day of July 2008, it is hereby accepted.

  
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Leonard H. Guercia, Jr., E.M.T.-P.  
Branch Chief  
Operations Branch