

State Disciplines Health Care Providers

Local News

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OLYMPIA ¾ The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.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 healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](http://doh.wa.gov) (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 September 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Elizabeth A. Morrison** (NC10086846) with unprofessional conduct. Morrison allegedly stole a patient's credit card and used it to buy personal items for herself. **Clark County** In October 2012 the Massage Program entered into an agreed order with **Karissa J. Wessa** (MA60060120). Wessa must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential, including paying a fine. She provided massage with an expired credential. **King County** In September 2012 the Secretary of Health placed the license of registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Leif S. Benjestorf** (RN00174674, AP60201664-NP) on probation for at least three years. Benjestorf had a romantic, sexual relationship with a patient. In September 2012 the Veterinary Board of Governors charged veterinarian **Mark L. Besola** (VT00004120) with unprofessional conduct. In April 2012 Besola was convicted of two felony counts for possession of, and dealing in, depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. In September 2012 the Pharmacy Board charged pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician **Chelsea Rae Gamblin** (VA60206819, VB60139953) with unprofessional conduct. Gamblin was allegedly arrested for driving under the influence after a one-car collision and admitted to using Xanax, marijuana, and Oxycodone hours prior to the accident; her blood tests were positive for marijuana and Xanax. In September 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Michaela Jamila Jones** (NC10100505) with unprofessional conduct. Jones allegedly stole a fellow employee's credit card and used it to make purchases. She admitted to police that she stole the credit card. In August 2012 the Nursing Commission ended the probation order against registered nurse **Erika I. Moorhouse** (RN00118811). In September 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Steven Scott Ramey** (CO60149314). In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jennifer K. Watkins** (RN00150630) with unprofessional conduct. Watkins allegedly didn't properly document wastage of controlled substances on several occasions, and admitted to taking some of a patient's Oxycodone for her own use. **Lewis County** In September 2012 the Dental Commission charged dentist **John Pham** (DE00008608, CS10000287) with unprofessional conduct. Pham allegedly didn't comply with a previous agreed order. He allegedly administered moderate sedation when he was restricted from

doing so, and provided substandard care to two patients. **Pierce County** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission placed licensed practical nurse **Catherine Margaret Ervin** (LP00038858) on probation for at least 18 months. She didn't keep adequate records of withdrawal and administration of medications to patients. In September 2012 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Lynette Sylvia Feller** (HC60253452) with unprofessional conduct. Feller allegedly falsified at least 88 prescriptions for controlled substances for her own use by using the names and Drug Enforcement Administration numbers of three physicians where she worked. In September 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program charged chemical dependency professional **Sandra E. Miller** (CP00001666) with unprofessional conduct. Miller allegedly tested positive for controlled substances during a workplace drug test; she didn't have a prescription for any of the drugs. In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Moises J. Villanueva** (LP00048571) with unprofessional conduct. Villanueva allegedly became improperly involved in a patient's financial affairs. In August 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Heather Zachara** also known as Heather Zachara Andrews (RN00177255), with unprofessional conduct. Zachara didn't comply with a previous stipulation. **Pend Oreille County** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Rhona J. Hofman** (RN00115099). Hofman must comply with terms and conditions set against her license including taking courses approved by the commission and paying a fine. She practiced for about 14 months with an expired license. **San Juan County** In September 2012 the Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program ended the probation order against emergency medical technician **John B. Howard** (ES60168090). **Skagit County** In October 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Paige Moureen Moore** (RN60173310) with unprofessional conduct. Moore allegedly didn't document administration or wastage of controlled substances on more than one occasion. In August 2012 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Kathryn S. Torset** (RN00146231). Torset must comply with terms and conditions set against her license including participating in a substance abuse monitoring program. **Spokane County** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission ended the probation order against registered nurse **Melody L. Weaver** (RN00105048). **Snohomish County** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Shelley K. Drouis** (RN00135187) with unprofessional conduct. Drouis allegedly provided in-home care to a patient and allowed the patient to give her \$55,000 to purchase his home. She also functioned as the patient's power of attorney and his will was changed to give Drouis his estate once he died. During the years when she provided care to this patient, she failed to provide adequate care and also allegedly admitted to use of amphetamines. In September 2012 the Massage Program charged **Richard M. Oliver** (MA00015442) with unprofessional conduct. Oliver allegedly kissed and hugged a client and then ended his professional relationship with her so he could pursue a romantic relationship with her. **Whatcom County** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Aeron A. Ries** (RN00140928). Ries must comply with terms and conditions set against his license including participating in a substance abuse monitoring program. **Out of state Oregon:** In August 2012 the Nursing Commission placed the license of licensed practical nurse **Denise M. Hemenway-Mantei** (LP00028927) on probation for at least two years. She improperly administered medication to a patient and must comply with terms and conditions set against her license. **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 \(www.doh.wa.gov\)](http://www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for a *healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).