# ORDER REVOKING EMS CERTIFICATES AND LICENSE

**TO:** Mikel P. Fort **PSID No.:** 3344-9573 **ORDER No.:** S003-2024

DATE ISSUED: February 6, 2024

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

In accordance with Indiana Code § 4-21.5-3-6 and Indiana Code § 16-31-3-14, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (Department) hereby **revokes**, for a period of seven (7) years, the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certificate, Paramedic license, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) primary instructor certificate, Emergency Vehicle Operator (EVOC) certificate, and EVOC Instructor certificate held by Mikel P. Fort (PSID No.: 3344-9573).

#### **FINDINGS**

This order is based on facts obtained by the Department following its investigation into criminal charges filed against Mr. Fort. Specifically, the Department has found that:

- 1. On or about October 25, 2023, criminal charges were filed in State of Indiana v. Mikel P. Fort in Cause Number 09C01-2310-F1-000004. The charges included two counts:
  - Count 1: Indiana Code 35-42-4-3(a)/F1: Child Molesting where def. is at least 21 years of age; and
  - Count 2: Indiana Code 35-42-4-3(a)/F1: Child Molesting where def. is at least 21 years of age (Conspiracy to Commit).
- 2. In investigating the charges identified above, the Department confirmed the veracity of the allegations and finds that Mr. Fort did engage in child molest while an EMS certificate and license holder.
- 3. Mr. Fort is subject to disciplinary sanctions under Ind. Code § 16-31-3-14(b) for:
  - a. failure to comply with 836 Ind. Admin. Code 4-4-1(e)(2) and 836 Ind. Admin. Code 4-9-3(e)(2) by acting "in such a manner that endangers the health or safety of emergency patients or the members of the general public" in violation of Ind. Code § 16-31-3-14(a)(7); and
  - b. "engag[ing] in a course of lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of services to the public" in violation of Ind. Code § 16-31-3-14(a)(9).

#### ORDER

Based upon the above findings and in accordance with Ind. Code § 16-31-3-14(b)(1), the Department hereby orders the following:

Revocation of the EMT certificate, Paramedic license, EMS primary instructor certificate, EVOC certificate, and EVOC Instructor certificate held by Mikel P. Fort (PSID No.: 3344-9573) for a period of seven (7) years from the effective date of this Order.

This revocation order completely eliminates the identified certificates and license. Mr. Fort shall be ineligible from obtaining a renewal or new EMS certificate or license during the period of revocation. Upon expiration of the revocation period, and if Mr. Fort ultimately is not convicted of the offenses charged which qualify as a crime of violence under Ind. Code § 16-31-3-14.5 and authorize permanent revocation, Mr. Fort may reapply for EMS certification or licensure in accordance with the requirements for an initial certificate or license.

#### **REVIEW RIGHTS**

This order is effective fifteen (15) days after service and must be complied with until such time that: (1) this order is overturned on review; (2) an administrative law judge issues a stay of enforcement; or (3) the Department consents to a request for stay in writing. 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.

SO ORDERED.

By: Kraig Kinney, Director Emergency Medical Services

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Feb. 6.2024

Date

# FINDINGS AND ORDER OF THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

TO: Shane Daniel Quinn Hammond

PO Box 223 Cutler In 46920

Email: shaneh134689@gmail.com

PSID #: 8464-9301

ORDER NUMBER: # 0002-2024

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 **Shane Hammond** (Respondent), PSID #: **8464-9301** 

#### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Respondent holds an EMT Certificate with an expiration date of December 31, 2023.
- 2. The continuing education was to be collected prior to December 31, 2023.
- 3. On or about January 02, 2024, Respondent submitted continuing education that listed all skills verifications completed, however, twelve of the required education hours were completed after the expiration date of December 31, 2023.

## 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 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 Renewal application submitted online. 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 will result in 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.
- 4. Pursuant to 836 IAC 4-4-2: (e), If a properly completed renewal application is submitted within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days after the expiration of the certification, together with the required documentation to show that the applicant has completed all required continuing education within the two (2) years prior to the expiration of the certification, and a fifty dollar (\$50) reapplication fee, the certification will be reinstated on the date that the commission staff determines that the required application, documentation, and reapplication fee have been properly submitted. The expiration date will be two (2) years from the expiration of the previous, expired certification.

# III CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department finds that Respondent failed to obtain his certification hours within the permitted timeframe and has an expired certification. Respondent has sufficient hours and is within the 120-day late renewal period, however, Respondent's act of submitting the recertification or re-licensure application via the late renewal process when not all the recertification/re-licensure requirements had been met is a form of fraud of material deception in obtaining a certificate or licensure.

### IV. ORDER

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

5. Respondent's renewal will be processed as a late renewal rather than a reacquire certification which would require retesting. Respondent will be issued an EMT renewal effective with this Order with the recertification date of December 31, 2025.

- 6. 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 #9 below. Payment by credit card may be done by obtaining and completing a credit card authorization form via <a href="mailto:emscertifications@dhs.in.gov">emscertifications@dhs.in.gov</a>. 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."
- Respondent is credited with the twelve hours of education that were obtained outside the certification period and the suspension period is waived given that the requirements have been met at this time.
- 8. 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.
- 9. 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

10. 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 <a href="https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm">https://www.in.gov/dhs/appeals.htm</a>.

SO ORDERED.

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By: Kraig Kinney, Director Emergency Medical Services Indiana Department of Homeland Security

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