



Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
P: 501.682.8590 F: 501.683.6060 TDD: 501.682.1550

Notice of Serious Incident

Date of Incident: 12/20/2022

Date Received by DCCECE: 12/20/2022

Facility Name: Perimeter Behavioral of West Memphis

Facility Number: 231

Facility Type: Residential

Incident Type: Licensing

Report Description: Licensing received an anonymous report stating that Perimeter of West Memphis is working with unlicensed therapists. The anonymous caller reported the therapists are not licensed in Arkansas. The caller also reported Perimeter of West Memphis is running with at least three (3) unlicensed therapists.

Interim Action Narrative:

Maltreatment Narrative:

Outcome:

Licensing Narrative: Licensing Specialist contacted Tracy Wright, Human Resources Coordinator, via email and requested documentation for all employed therapists. On 12/21/2022, Tracy Wright informed Licensing Specialist that she was still searching for the files. Tracy reported that she had reached out to the clinical director to assist. Tracy informed Licensing Specialist that a few therapists license had expired. 12/22/2022, Licensing Specialist attempted to call Tracy on her cell and work phone. Licensing Specialist received her voicemail both times and left a voicemail on both phones. Licensing Specialist also left voicemails for the Clinical Director and Director of Nursing. Tracy

returned Licensing Specialist's name and provided the name of the therapists. 12/28/22- Licensing Specialist and Program Coordinator visited the facility and reviewed files of active therapists at the facility. The Program Coordinator met with Tracy Wright and Sarah Gatlin at the facility to ask questions and discuss the status of the licensure of the therapists. The Program Coordinator also spoke to one therapist on site who was able to immediately produce her Arkansas licensure. A copy of the license was retained for licensing records. Five full time therapists work at the facility and two PRN therapists are employed by the agency. Of the five full time therapists, two were verified to have an active Arkansas license while the other three were reported to be in the process of getting licensed. One of the PRN therapists is also listed as in the process of getting licensed and the other PRN therapist reportedly has licensure in Tennessee, but not Arkansas. The Program Coordinator will discuss this information with DHS legal counsel. Program Coordinator and Program Manager met with DHS legal counsel and determined that the facility is meeting standard 906.1.d by having one or more therapists currently licensed as a mental health profession in the state of Arkansas as recognized by Arkansas Medicaid. The other therapists currently working on their licensure is not a violation of the Minimum Licensing Standards. This complaint is unfounded for any licensing violations.



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521 Visit Compliance Report

Licensee: Perimeter Behavioral of West Memphis

Facility Number: 231

Licensee Address: 600 NORTH 7TH STREET
WEST MEMPHIS AR 72301

Licensing Specialist: Chelsea Vardell

Person In Charge:

Record Visit Date: 12/28/2022

Home Visit Date: 12/28/2022

Purpose of Visit: Complaint Visit

Regulations Out of Compliance:

Regulations Needing Technical Assistance:

Regulations Not Correctable:

Narrative:

Licensing Specialist and Program Coordinator visited the facility and discussed that a complaint was received stating that the facility was operating with no licensed therapists on staff.

The facility confirmed that there are five full time therapists and two PRN therapists currently employed by the agency. Five therapist files were reviewed. The files contained the college diplomas for a degree in a

master's program, but no licensure was documented in the files. The Clinical Director stated that three of the five full time therapists are currently in the process of getting their licensure, one PRN therapist is working on getting their licensure, and the second PRN therapist is licensed in Tennessee, but not in Arkansas. Each therapist holds a caseload of between 8-10 residents from both the acute side and PRTF side of the facility.

The facility had previously emailed a copy of the Arkansas licensure for therapist P. Bailey. The Program Coordinator spoke to the on-site therapist L. Dejohnette, and she provided her Arkansas licensure. A copy of the license was given to the HR Director for her personnel file and a copy was provided to the Program Coordinator.

The Program Coordinator explained that no finding for this complaint would be left today, and the facility will be notified of the finding after further investigation.



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Facility Number: 231

Licensee Address: 600 NORTH 7TH STREET
WEST MEMPHIS AR 72301

Licensing Specialist: Chelsea Vardell

Person In Charge:

Record Visit Date: 1/13/2023

Home Visit Date: 1/13/2023

Purpose of Visit: Complaint Visit

Regulations Out of Compliance:

Regulations Needing Technical Assistance:

Regulations Not Correctable:

Narrative:

No site visit conducted on this day.

Licensing received an anonymous report on 12/20/2022 stating that Perimeter of West Memphis is working with unlicensed therapists. The anonymous caller reported the therapists are not licensed in Arkansas. The caller also reported Perimeter of West Memphis is running with at least three (3) unlicensed therapists.

This complaint was investigated by the licensing unit and determined that two of the therapists on staff do have Arkansas licensure while the remaining four therapists are not licensed or have a license out of state and plan to seek reciprocity in the state of Arkansas. Standard 906.1.d states "One (1) or more therapists having at least a master's degree in a human services field and is currently licensed as a mental health professional (as recognized by Arkansas Medicaid)".

The facility is meeting standard 906.1.d therefore this licensing complaint is unfounded.