STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES

RECEIVED
JAN 31 2014
By_____

EMS Case #13-057B-OF

In the Matter of:
CHERRA WHEELER, EMT-C
License Number EMT14103

CONSENT ORDER

This matter came before the Department of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services (hereinafter "Department"), upon allegations that, EMT (hereinafter "Respondent") who while employed by the Johnston Fire Department did engage in conduct that constituted grounds for civil disciplinary action against her EMT license pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 23-4.1-9 and the *Rules and Regulations Relating to Emergency Medical Services* Rule 14.1. After careful consideration by the Department, the following constitute the Findings of Fact with respect to the actions of the Respondent relative to this incident:

1. Cherra Wheeler, EMT-C (hereinafter "Respondent") is licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws chapter 23-4.1 and holds license number EMT14103.
2. On November 26, 2013, the Rhode Island Department of Health's Division of Emergency Medical Services staff observed Respondent at Roger Williams Medical Center to be transporting a patient without having applied patient restraint straps on the ambulance stretcher.
3. On October 15, 2013, an Advisory was sent from the Division of Emergency Medical Services to all EMS service chiefs and coordinators in Rhode Island that

reminded all EMS services to use all five patient restraint straps during all patient transportation, with two exceptions: children restrained to stretchers in approved car seats, and in the rare case that patient care is compromised by a strap placement.

4. The Advisory warned that violators of the Rhode Island Prehospital Care Protocols and Standing Orders, § 1.1. Standard Management of All Patients, would be subject to a reprimand for such violation.

5. Respondent has committed a violation of the Rhode Island Prehospital Care Protocols and Standing Orders, § 1.1 (Standard Management of All Patients), and thus has committed a civil violation of R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 23-4.1-4 and -7.

Based on the foregoing, the parties agree as follows:

1. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Department and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Department. Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of the Department and is subject to final ratification by the Department. This Consent Order and the contents thereof are not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Department.

4. Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

    a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Department;

    b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in her behalf at a hearing;

    c. The right to cross-examine witnesses;

    d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Department;

e. The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;

f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;

g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Department for consideration and review;

h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Department to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Consent Order; and

i. Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order to the Department.

5. This Consent Order shall become a part of the public record of this proceeding once accepted by all parties. Acceptance by the Respondent and approval by the Department of this Consent Order constitutes an admission of the facts contained herein.

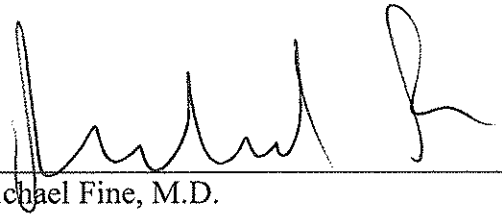
6. A copy of this Consent Order shall be forwarded by the Department to Respondent's current employer(s) and/or volunteer service.

Signed this 28 day of January, 2014.

Cherra Wheeler

Cherra Wheeler, EMT-C
EMT14103

Ratified as an order of the Department on this 3 day of February, 2014.



Michael Fine, M.D.
Director
Department of Health