

**Rhode Island Department of Health
Division of Emergency Medical Services**

**In the Matter of
Steven J. Freches, EMT-Basic #8730**

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

On September 11, 2008, the Department of Health (the Department) received a written complaint regarding the conduct of Steven J. Freches (the Respondent) as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) with respect to a call that occurred on or about 2:30AM, September 5, 2008, at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island. This matter has been assigned EMS case #08-025A.

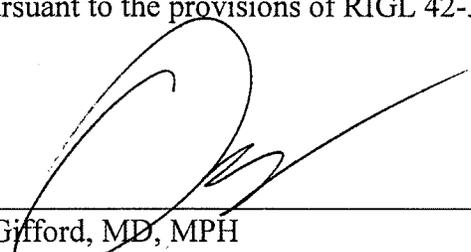
FINDINGS OF FACT

The Division of Emergency Medical Services has concluded that the Respondent's professional actions demonstrate a significant and egregious failure to provide appropriate emergency medical care to the Patient in a manner consistent with the Respondent's professional training and scope-of-practice. Specifically:

1. Steven J. Freches is an Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) licensed by the Department and employed as an EMT/Public Safety Officer by Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island.
2. The Patient was an insulin-dependent diabetic, found unresponsive in the common area of a Bryant University dormitory with an initial blood glucose level of 36 mg/dL.
3. The Respondent administered a large quantity of insulin (Humalog) into the Patient's left thigh via an auto-injector found in the Patient's pocket.
4. The administration of insulin is outside the scope-of-practice for any Emergency Medical Technician in the State of Rhode Island. Furthermore, administration of insulin would be contrary to the proper course of care for a hypo-glycemic patient, a fundamental principle of diabetic management taught during all EMT-Basic training programs.
5. The Patient was received by Our Lady of Fatima Hospital in critical condition with a severely depressed blood glucose level, requiring extensive pharmaceutical intervention to bring under control. As a result, the Patient was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for some period of time.

ORDER

After a review of the information in the investigative file, it has been determined that the continuation in practice as an Emergency Medical Technician by Steven J. Freches would constitute an immediate danger to the public. Accordingly, Steven J. Freches is suspended from practicing as an Emergency Medical Technician until further Order of the Department of Health. Respondent's suspension is in accordance with the terms of the Administrative Procedures Act RIGL 42-35-14 (c). The Respondent is entitled to a hearing pursuant to the provisions of RIGL 42-35-14 (c).

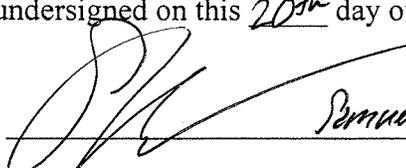


David R. Gifford, MD, MPH
Director of Health

10-17-08
Date

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

A copy of this Summary Suspension Order was hand delivered and sent regular mail to Steven J. Freches, 995 Lonsdale Avenue, Central Falls, RI 02863 by the undersigned on this 20th day of October 2008.



Samuel W. Adams