



AUG 31 2018

Administrator
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Charles Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letter regarding the survey conducted on June 6, 2018 at Timely Mission Nursing Home in Buffalo Center, Iowa. As you are aware, the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (IDIA) identified serious concerns with the quality of care provided by this facility. These concerns were determined to pose an immediate jeopardy to the health and safety of residents in the facility. Prior to the conclusion of the survey, Timely Mission implemented a removal plan to address the immediate threat to resident health and safety. A revisit survey conducted on July 11, 2018 found that the provider had returned to substantial compliance with CMS' program requirements.

IDIA informed CMS of these survey findings on June 29, 2018, and transferred this case to the CMS Regional Office (RO) for determination of the appropriate enforcement remedy. The fine that is discussed in the link to the news article you provided was an independent fine imposed by the state. Holding the fine in suspension was an action the state took, and was not directed by CMS.

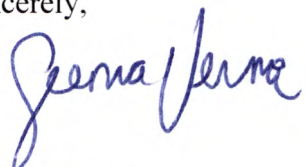
In determining the appropriate enforcement action for a nursing home, CMS imposes a remedy designed to promote on-going compliance with Medicare program requirements that is specific for a given facility. CMS makes this determination by evaluating the severity of findings, the facility's history of non-compliance and related past enforcement actions, as well as the financial situation of the provider. In response to the findings of this case, CMS imposed a Civil Money Penalty (CMP) of \$77,462 on August 3, 2018.

With respect to the facility's compliance history, Timely Mission has had 19 complaint investigations conducted over the past 5 years. The facility has come back into substantial compliance with program requirements following each of these surveys. A complaint survey conducted on September 1, 2017, identified a situation of Immediate Jeopardy related to the reporting and investigating of abuse for which a CMP of \$57,960.50 was imposed. All other complaint surveys of this facility over the past 5 years either did not result in deficiencies or resulted in low level deficiencies that did not require enforcement action from CMS. As you requested, a list of all complaints, survey findings and enforcement actions taken on Timely Mission over the last 5 years is enclosed.

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Thank you again for your letter. CMS shares your concern for the health and safety of nursing home residents and we appreciate the opportunity to demonstrate that we take our role in protecting this vulnerable population seriously. Please let us know if there is additional information you would like or if there are further questions we could address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Seema Verma". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a distinct 'V'.

Seema Verma

Enclosure