

Tony Evers
Governor



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

1 WEST WILSON STREET
PO BOX 2659
MADISON WI 53701-2659

Kirsten L. Johnson
Secretary

Telephone: 608-266-1251
Fax: 608-267-2832
TTY: 711 or 800-947-3529

July 16, 2024

(Via Certified US Mail)
Thomas Nehring



Re: Revocation of Paramedic License with Critical Care Endorsement #70103116

Dear Mr. Nehring,

The Department of Health Services, EMS Section is revoking your Paramedic License with Critical Care Endorsement #70103116.

Factual Basis for the Department's Action

On November 16, 2023, you, Thomas Nehring, were convicted in Byron Municipal Court case number CRB2300628 with one count of endangering a child, a misdemeanor, in violation of Section 2919.22(A) of the Revised Code of Ohio.

You first notified the Department of the conviction on May 15, 2024, nearly six months after your conviction.

Legal Authority for Department Action

Under Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.58(1), the department may deny, refuse to renew, limit, condition, suspend or revoke a license, permit, or certification, for any reason under s. DHS 110.54, if the department gives written notice of the reasons for the proposed action and the right to a hearing to appeal the action under s. DHS 110.59. Under Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.58(6) a revocation shall be for a minimum of two years.

Wis. Admin. Code DHS § 110.54 provides:

The department may take any enforcement action under ss. 110.55 to 110.58, which it determines is appropriate against a person subject to the requirements of this chapter and ss. 256.12 to 256.18, Stats., for any of the following reasons:

(4) The person has violated any provision of ch. 256, Stats., or this chapter.

- (9) The person has an arrest or conviction history substantially related to the performance of duties as an EMS professional, as determined by the department.
- (10) The person committed or permitted, aided or abetted the commission of an unlawful act that substantially relates to performance of EMS duties, as determined by the department.
- (26s) The person failed to notify the department of a felony or misdemeanor conviction in writing within 48 hours after the entry of the judgment of conviction, including the date, time, place, and nature of the conviction or finding. Notice shall include a copy of the judgment of conviction and a copy of the complaint or other information which describes the nature of the crime in order that the department determine whether the circumstances of the crime which the person was convicted are substantially related to the practice of emergency medical services.

Department Action

Your conviction for endangering a child evidences a tendency to behave in ways that are contrary to the responsible and safe performance of the duties of an EMS professional. An EMS professional must comply with Wisconsin statutes, administrative rules, and standards of practice for operating as an EMS professional and for providing appropriate care to patients.

Your conviction for endangering a child displays a willingness to risk the health and safety of individuals under your care, which is incompatible with the duties of an EMS professional. EMS professionals are entrusted to assume care for patients suffering from illness or injury. Frequently these patients are rendered defenseless by age, disability, illness, or injury, requiring the EMS professional to also assume the role of protecting their patients from further harm while under their care and protection. EMS professionals may at times even be required to humanely utilize restraints to protect patients who are a harm to themselves or others. The public entrusts these patients to EMS professionals and grants EMS professionals the ability to utilize procedures such as patient restraint with the understanding that EMS professionals will always act with integrity and in the best interest of the patients under their care. Furthermore, when restraining patients, the public expects EMS professionals recognize the inherent risks use of restraints may pose to the patient's safety and do so only when appropriate and not in a punitive or careless manner. You were convicted of endangering a three-year old child under your care and protection by restraining that child with duct tape as a form of discipline during a family automobile trip. Endangering the safety of individuals under your care is incompatible with the duties of an EMS professional.

In addition, as an EMS professional, you had a professional responsibility to notify the Department within 48 hours of a felony or misdemeanor conviction. You were convicted of endangering a child, a misdemeanor, on November 16, 2023. You first notified the Department of the conviction on May 15, 2024.

Thomas Nehring #70103116

July 16, 2024

Page 3 of 3

Based on this information, the Department has determined that you have violated Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.54 (4), (9), (10), and (26s) and that revocation of your paramedic license with critical care endorsement #70103116 is necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare. Consequently, you may not act as or advertise for the provision of emergency medical services in the state of Wisconsin per Wis. Stat. § 256.15(1).

Right to Appeal

Based on Wis. Stat. ch. 227 and Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.59, you have the right to request a hearing to show cause why the revocation should not be continued by filing a written request for a hearing with the Wisconsin Division of Hearings and Appeals, as provided under s. DHS 110.59, within 30 days after the date of this notice.

If you mail your request to the Division, you should mail it to the following address:

Wisconsin Division of Hearings and Appeals
PO Box 7875
Madison, WI 53705-5400

You may also deliver the request to appeal in person to the Division at 4822 Madison Yards Way, Fifth Floor, Madison, Wisconsin 53705, or fax your request to the Division at 608-264-9885, or by email at dhsemssmail@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

If you choose to request a hearing with the Division of Hearings and Appeals, please send a copy of your request to me at the address in the header of this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact the EMS Section 608-266-1568 or dhsmessmail@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,



Natalie Easterday
Director
Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care
Wisconsin Department of Health Services