



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

March 21, 2023

Erin Gust
Dignitas Inc
P.O. Box 3460
Farmington Hills, MI 48333-3460

RE: License #: AM630409077
Investigation #: 2023A0611015
Orchard Lake House 4

Dear Ms. Gust:

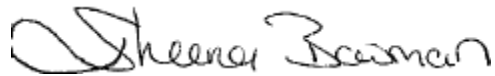
Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan is required. The corrective action plan is due 15 days from the date of this letter and must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

If you desire technical assistance in addressing these issues, please feel free to contact me. In any event, the corrective action plan is due within 15 days. Failure to submit an acceptable corrective action plan will result in disciplinary action.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the local office at (248) 975-5053.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheena Bowman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Sheena Bowman, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Cadillac Place
3026 W Grand Blvd, Suite 9-100
Detroit, MI 48202

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AM630409077
Investigation #:	2023A0611015
Complaint Receipt Date:	03/02/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	03/07/2023
Report Due Date:	05/01/2023
Licensee Name:	Dignitas Inc
Licensee Address:	Suite 112 - 24380 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills, MI 48336-3460
Licensee Telephone #:	(248) 442-1170
Administrator:	Erin Gust
Licensee Designee:	Erin Gust
Name of Facility:	Orchard Lake House 4
Facility Address:	24445 Orchard Lake Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48336
Facility Telephone #:	(248) 442-1170
Original Issuance Date:	10/21/2022
License Status:	TEMPORARY
Effective Date:	10/21/2022
Expiration Date:	04/20/2023
Capacity:	12
Program Type:	PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED TRAUMATICALLY BRAIN INJURED

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
During the 6-month fire safety inspection, all of the fire drills exceeded eight minutes.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

03/02/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023A0611015
03/07/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - Letter I emailed the fire marshal inspector, Don Christensen regarding the fire drills he reviewed.
03/14/2023	Inspection Completed On-site I completed an unannounced onsite. I interviewed the Clinical Director, Krisanne George, staff member, Lois Brown, and Resident T. I received a copy of the resident register and the fire drills.
03/16/2023	Contact - Telephone call made I made a telephone call to the Fire Marshal Inspector, Don Christensen. The allegations were discussed.
03/21/2023	Exit Conference I completed an exit conference with the licensee designee, Erin Gust via email as she was not available over the phone.

ALLEGATION:

During the 6-month fire safety inspection, all of the fire drills exceeded eight minutes.

INVESTIGATION:

On 03/01/23, I received an email requesting an investigation for the AFC group home due to the Fire Marshal Inspector, Don Christensen observing the fire drills exceeding 8 minutes during the day shift and; the night shift documenting a fire drill that took 18

minutes and 46 seconds to complete. The residents are primarily victims of accidents with brain and/or spinal cord injuries that are mostly bed ridden or in wheelchairs.

On 03/14/23, I completed an unannounced onsite. I interviewed the Clinical Director, Krisanne George, staff member, Lois Brown, and Resident T. I received a copy of the resident register and the fire drills.

On 03/14/23, I interviewed the Clinical Director, Krisanne George. Regarding the allegations, Ms. George stated typically 3-4 staff members are scheduled to work during the day and afternoon shifts however; sometimes only two staff members are working due to staff members calling off. There are two staff members scheduled for the midnight shift. Ms. George is present in the AFC group home Monday through Friday, and she helps the staff members.

Ms. George stated during fire drills, the staff do not always pull the fire alarm as they will yell "fire" throughout the home to notify the residents that they are conducting a fire drill. Ms. George stated some of the residents exit through the front door and some residents exit through the side door. During the fire drills, the staff would either tell the residents that the fire is in the basement or the kitchen to prompt them to evacuate to a different exit. There are a total of six residents who require total care, which means they cannot transfer from their bed to their wheelchair by themselves. One resident can transfer from their bed to their wheelchair. Ms. George was informed by the Fire Marshal Inspector, Don Christensen that eight minutes is the maximum amount of time for all the residents to evacuate the home during a fire drill. According to the resident register, there are a total of 11 residents in the AFC group home.

I received a copy of the fire drills. The date, time and duration of the fire drills are as follows:

- 09/22/22 9:45am 11minutes and 36 seconds
- 10/16/22 9:45pm 13 minutes
- 11/19/23 12:00am 18 minutes and 46 seconds
- 12/13/22 6:00pm 9 minutes and 20 seconds
- 01/26/23 5:10pm 8 minutes
- 02/20/23 8:20am 9 minutes

On 03/14/23, I interviewed staff member, Lois Brown. Regarding the allegations, Ms. Brown has worked for the AFC group home since October 2022. Ms. Brown works Monday through Wednesday 1:00pm to 9:00pm and Saturday and Sunday 2:00pm to 10:00pm. Ms. Brown stated fire drills are completed once a month. Ms. Brown stated

the fire alarm is not pulled during the fire drills. The staff yell “fire” and go inside each bedroom and tell the residents to get up. Ms. Brown stated half of the residents exit from the front door and the other half exit from the side door. Ms. Brown stated the last fire drill she participated in was approximately in December 2022 and; a total of four staff members were present. The fire drill took about 10 to 12 minutes to complete. Ms. Brown stated the staff have to get the residents out of bed and drag them with their bed sheets outside of the home. Once the residents are outside of the home the staff go back into the home and bring the residents wheelchairs outside and transfer the residents back inside.

On 03/14/23, I interviewed Resident T. Resident T was hard to understand. Regarding the allegations, Resident T stated he does not like living at the AFC group home because it’s not home for him. Resident T stated fire drills are completed on a regular basis. Resident T exits through the side door during fire drills. Resident T stated staff assist him with exiting when he needs it. The staff sometimes pull the fire alarm. Resident T stated when the fire alarm goes off, he knows what to do.

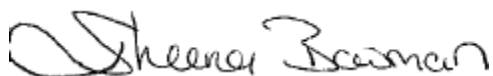
On 03/16/23, I made a telephone call to the Fire Marshal Inspector, Don Christensen. Mr. Christensen confirmed that the AFC group home is in compliance regarding their fire drills as they meet the health code requirements; despite the lengthy timeframes to evacuate. However, there is a concern that the duration of the fire drills are consistently over eight minutes.

On 03/21/23, I completed an exit conference with the licensee designee, Erin Gust via email. Mrs. Gust was informed that the allegations will be substantiated, and a corrective action plan will be required.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14305	Resident protection.
	(3) A resident shall be treated with dignity and his or her personal needs, including protection and safety, shall be attended to at all times in accordance with the provisions of the act.
ANALYSIS:	Based on my findings and the information gathered, there is a safety concern regarding the duration of the monthly fire drills. With the exception of the fire drill conducted on 01/26/23, all of the fire drills have exceeded eight minutes. Therefore, the safety of the residents cannot be ensured in the event of a fire if the staff members are unable to evacuate each resident in a timely manner.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no change in the license status.

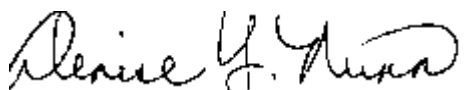


Sheena Bowman
Licensing Consultant

03/21/23

Date

Approved By:



03/21/2023

Denise Y. Nunn
Area Manager

Date