



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

October 10, 2024

Leslie Pugh
Sunset Assisted Living, Inc.
28293 W. Sunset Blvd.
Lathrup Village, MI 48076

RE: License #: AS630277724
Investigation #: 2024A0612039
Sunset Assisted Living

Dear Ms. Pugh:

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 cursive script that reads "Johnna Cade".

Johnna Cade, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Cadillac Place
3026 W. Grand Blvd. Ste 9-100
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone: 248-302-2409

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AS630277724
Investigation #:	2024A0612039
Complaint Receipt Date:	09/19/2024
Investigation Initiation Date:	09/19/2024
Report Due Date:	11/18/2024
Licensee Name:	Sunset Assisted Living, Inc.
Licensee Address:	28293 W. Sunset Blvd. Lathrup Village, MI 48076
Licensee Telephone #:	(248) 443-5199
Administrator:	Leslie Pugh
Licensee Designee:	Leslie Pugh
Name of Facility:	Sunset Assisted Living
Facility Address:	28293 W. Sunset Blvd. Lathrup Village, MI 48076
Facility Telephone #:	(248) 443-5199
Original Issuance Date:	12/28/2005
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	08/13/2022
Expiration Date:	08/12/2024
Capacity:	5
Program Type:	MENTALLY ILL AGED

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Direct care staff Audra Roland is having a sexual relationship with Resident A.	Yes
Residents are unsupervised.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

09/19/2024	Special Investigation Intake 2024A0612039
09/19/2024	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Telephone call to reporting source.
09/20/2024	Contact - Telephone call made Interview completed with reporting source and Adult Protective Service (APS) worker Estilita Horton.
09/20/2024	APS Referral I received notification via email that APS is investigating this allegation. The assigned investigator is Estilita Horton.
09/23/2024	Contact - Telephone call made Interviews completed with licensee designee Leslie Pugh, direct care staff Tonietta Dixon and direct care staff Natasha Sales.
09/23/2024	Contact - Telephone call made Telephone call made and text messages exchanged with direct care staff Audra Roland.
09/23/2024	Contact - Document Received I received two photos sent via text messages from licensee designee Leslie Pugh.
09/23/2024	Contact - Document Received Email correspondence received between APS worker Ms. Horton and Lathrup Village Detective M. Zang.

10/01/2024	Contact - Document Received Email correspondence received between APS worker Ms. Horton and Lathrup Village Detective M. Zang.
10/01/2024	Inspection Completed On-site I completed an unscheduled onsite investigation. I interviewed Resident A and Resident B.
10/01/2024	Exit Conference Telephone call to licensee designee Leslie Pugh to conduct an exit conference.
10/02/2024	Contact - Document Received Email correspondence received from APS worker Ms. Horton.
10/02/2024	Contact - Telephone call made Telephone interview with Resident A's guardian.
10/02/2024	Contact - Document Received Resident A's AFC assessment plan and resident care agreement.

ALLEGATION:

Direct care staff Audra Roland is having a sexual relationship with Resident A.

INVESTIGATION:

On 09/19/24, I received a complaint that indicated residents are unsupervised and a staff person is having a sexual relationship with Resident A. On 09/19/24, I placed a telephone call to the reporting source. The reporting source stated she was unable to talk at this time. A return call was requested.

On 09/20/24, I interviewed the reporting source via telephone. The reporting source stated Resident A told her that he and direct care staff Audra Roland are involved in a romantic relationship. The reporting source stated on an unknown date while she was working on shift, she heard Ms. Roland in the bathroom with Resident A. Ms. Roland told Resident A that his breath stinks. The reporting source stated she went into the bathroom and observed Ms. Roland standing near Resident A as if they had just kissed. The reporting source described Ms. Roland's body language as "too friendly" and "not appropriate for a caregiver." The reporting source stated then on 09/14/24, she visited Resident A in the hospital. While she was visiting, Resident A used her cell phone to call Ms. Roland. The reporting source stated she thought Resident A wanted to call Ms. Roland regarding his medical condition. However, while they were on the phone the

reporting source heard Resident A and Ms. Roland arguing. The reporting source remarked, "they were arguing like they were a couple." After the phone call Resident A told the reporting source that he was in a relationship with Ms. Roland. The reporting source stated later that night she received a text message from Ms. Roland telling her not to let residents call her from her cell phone. On 09/16/24, the reporting source received a telephone call from licensee designee, Leslie Pugh. At the time of the call, it seemed as though Ms. Pugh was aware of the relationship between Resident A and Ms. Roland. The reporting source stated during the conversation Ms. Pugh continuously referred to her as "the new kid on the block." The reporting source stated she chose to end her employment the next day, 09/17/24.

On 09/20/24, I received notification via email that Adult Protective Services (APS) is investigating these allegations. The assigned APS worker is, Estelita Horton. The APS referral indicated that Resident A is involved in a sexual relationship with licensee designee, Leslie Pugh. On 09/20/24, I placed a telephone call to APS worker Ms. Horton regarding the allegations. Ms. Horton stated that she interviewed Resident A on 09/19/24, at Ascension Providence Southfield. Resident A clarified the sexual relationship was not with licensee designee, Leslie Pugh the sexual relationship was with direct care staff, Audra Roland. Ms. Horton stated she addressed the allegations with Resident A and he reported they were true. Resident A reported he is in the hospital because he tripped while he was walking in the grass leaving from dialysis and he fractured his left arm. Resident A stated he and Ms. Roland have been in a relationship for three to four years. Resident A stated Ms. Roland is married, and he does not want the relationship anymore.

Resident A stated he and Ms. Roland were arguing about "something", and she told him she would have her sons come "beat his ass." Resident A stated her sons never came to the group home and he feels safe at the home. Resident A just does not want to be in the relationship anymore and he knows it was a mistake. Resident A reported he has two adult children. His daughter is his legal guardian. Resident A stated he told his guardian about his relationship with Ms. Roland, and she told him that he should not be doing that. Ms. Horton stated she asked Resident A if any staff were aware of the relationship and he said no. Ms. Horton informed Resident A that law enforcement had to be contacted due to the allegations and he reported that an officer already came and spoke with him today, but he could not remember their name. While at the hospital Ms. Horton spoke with Resident A's nurse, Kaitlyn (last name unknown). Kaitlyn reported that Resident A does not require surgery, he will need to keep his sling on, and he cannot apply any weight to his arm. Kaitlyn expressed no concerns. Ms. Horton further stated she was informed by licensee designee Ms. Pugh, that Resident A loaned Ms. Roland \$1,000 and she has not paid him back. Ms. Horton stated Ms. Pugh informed her that she was made aware of the relationship between Resident A and Ms. Roland on 09/16/24. On 09/17/24, she addressed the allegation with Ms. Roland and Ms. Roland quit. She walked off shift. Ms. Pugh stated she was informed by other direct care staff that when Ms. Roland would get off shift, she would come back to the house

and pick up Resident A. In addition, in Resident A's bedroom Ms. Pugh discovered a nude photo of Ms. Roland and a letter that Resident A wrote to Ms. Roland's husband.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed licensee designee Leslie Pugh via telephone. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A told her that he was involved in a sexual relationship with direct care staff Audra Roland. Resident A said he lent Ms. Roland \$1,000 and initially she did not pay him back. Then he said she paid him back two weeks later. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A has a guardian, the company does not oversee his finances. Ms. Pugh stated on 09/17/24, Resident A showed her a picture on his cell phone of a nude lady. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A's cell phone screen is cracked however, the photo is of a nude woman, on Resident A's bed. Ms. Pugh identified Resident A's comforter in the photo. Ms. Pugh stated the woman appears to be Ms. Roland as she can tell by her hair. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A also wrote a letter to Ms. Roland's husband regarding their relationship which he provided to Ms. Pugh. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A told him that he and Ms. Roland would have sex in the basement of the home, and she would pick him up and take him to the Red Roof Inn when she was off shift where they would also have sex. Ms. Pugh stated she spoke to the other residents regarding the allegation and Resident B told her that he knew Ms. Roland and Resident A were "lovers" because they argued at the house. Ms. Pugh stated direct care staff Natasha Sales told her that she also knew that Resident A and Ms. Roland were romantically involved.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed direct care staff Tonietta Dixon via telephone. Ms. Dixon has worked at the home for six years. She works on the morning shift from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Ms. Dixon stated she did not know that Resident A and Ms. Roland were involved in a romantic and/or sexual relationship. Ms. Dixon stated she has never witnessed anything out of the norm between the two of them. Ms. Dixon remarked that the allegation was shocking to her.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed direct care staff Natasha Sales via telephone. Ms. Sales stated she began her employment with this company in 2015. Ms. Sales stated she found out that Resident A and Ms. Roland were involved in a romantic relationship in 2016 - 2017. Ms. Sales stated Ms. Roland worked from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm and she worked from 4:00 pm – 12:00am. Resident A would say he was leaving in a cab, but really Ms. Roland would come and pick him up from the home. Ms. Sales stated she did not report this to anyone as she felt like it was not her place to tell. Ms. Sales stated she did not witness Resident A and Ms. Roland engaging romantically and/or sexually. She has witnessed them hug. Ms. Sales stated she did not inform Ms. Pugh about the relationship. Ms. Sales stated Resident A would tell her about arguments and disagreements between him and Ms. Roland and she advised him that it was wrong for them to be in a relationship.

On 09/23/24, I placed a telephone call to direct care staff, Audra Roland. There was no answer. I left a voicemail requesting a return call. I followed up with a text message identifying myself and requesting a telephone call regarding the investigation. Ms.

Roland responded to the text message and stated she is no longer employed by Sunset Assisted Living. She does not feel comfortable completing an interview. I informed Ms. Roland that I was conducting an investigation involving her and a determination would be made without her testimony.

On 09/23/24, APS worker Ms. Horton stated she placed a telephone call to direct care staff, Audra Roland. There was no answer. Ms. Horton left a voicemail requesting a return call and followed up with a text message. In addition, Ms. Horton provided email correspondence between herself and Lathrup Village Detective M. Zang. Detective Zang stated he had not reached out to Ms. Roland, but her employer confirmed she chose to terminate her employment. Detective Zang interviewed Resident A who reported the two were in a 6 - 7year sexual relationship. At this time, Ms. Roland has paid Resident A back all but \$400. Ms. Horton stated she was substantiating her investigation. On 10/01/24, Ms. Horton received an update from Detective Zang who stated he called Ms. Roland twice and left messages. He has also sent her two text messages, which show "delivered", but he is not receiving any calls back. Detective Zang stated he will give Ms. Roland a couple more days and then he will send the case to the prosecutor's office for review.

On 10/01/24, I completed an unscheduled onsite investigation. I interviewed Resident A and Resident B. Direct care staff Iada Paige was the staff on shift. Ms. Paige stated she started working for this company one week ago, she has no information regarding the allegations.

On 10/01/24, I interviewed Resident B. I reviewed the allegations with Resident B. Resident B remarked, "it was a secret to me." Resident B stated he has lived in the home approximately one year, he did not know that Resident A and Ms. Roland were involved in a romantic and/or sexual relationship until they "started fussing at each other." Resident B stated he never witnessed Resident A and Ms. Roland interacting sexually and/or romantically. Resident B stated he has no concerns with the care Ms. Roland provided to him.

On 10/01/24, I interviewed Resident A. Resident A stated he has been dating Ms. Roland for the past 2-3 years. Resident A stated he wanted to be in a relationship with Ms. Roland, he was not coerced. Resident A stated he and Ms. Roland have had sexual intercourse on multiple occasions. Resident A stated the sexual acts were consensual, he was not coerced. Resident A stated he and Ms. Roland had sexual intercourse at the facility, at Ms. Roland's friend's house, and at motels. Resident A stated he has never been to Ms. Roland's home. Resident A stated he has a nude photo of Ms. Roland that was taken in his bedroom at the facility. Resident A stated four or five months ago Ms. Roland told him that she wanted to end their relationship. The relationship ended; Resident A stated he has not had any communication with Ms. Roland since her employment at the facility ended.

Resident A stated he has a guardian. He has access to his own money which he manages independently. Resident A stated on an unknown date he had \$900 in a cigarette pack that was in his bedroom on his nightstand. Resident A stated he took one cigarette and went outside to smoke leaving the pack of cigarettes with the money on his nightstand. When he returned to his bedroom ten minutes later the pack of cigarettes and the money were gone. He later found the pack of cigarettes outside near the front porch in the rose bush, the money was gone. Resident A stated Ms. Roland was the only staff on shift. He asked her if she took his money, she denied. Resident A stated he does not suspect that his housemates took his money because they do not come into his bedroom without permission. Resident A remarked he knows it was Ms. Roland because she has stolen money from him before. Over a year ago, Resident A stated he asked Ms. Roland to hold \$2,000 for him. She was keeping the money in two envelopes that she kept in her office. There was \$1,000 in each envelope. Resident A stated on an unknown date he wanted to add money to the envelopes, when Ms. Roland opened the envelopes there was fake money inside. Resident A stated Ms. Roland has paid him back some of the money however she still owes him \$1,200.

On 10/02/24, I received an email from APS worker Ms. Horton that indicated on 10/02/24, she interviewed direct care staff Audra Roland. Ms. Horton provided the following summary of her interview.

APS received a return call from Audra Roland. APS addressed the allegations with her. She denied the allegations being true. She reported she has never had a relationship with the client outside of work or a sexual relationship. She denied borrowing money from the client and denied the client had nude pictures taken of her in his room on his phone. She denied knowing about the letter the client wrote to her husband. She reported she had worked at the home for 15 years, but she no longer works there. APS informed her that APS was told she walked out on her shift and asked her why. She stated she quit and walked out on her shift because the client was calling harassing her while he was in the hospital because he is obsessed with her. She stated the client kept calling telling her he would continue to call her until she quit or got fired so she quit. APS informed her that law enforcement was notified due to the allegations and would be contacting her. She stated she knew and that she was waiting for Detective Zang to call her back. APS also informed her that Johnna Cade with LARA had tried reaching out to her and asked if she had her contact information. She stated she did not have it on hand and asked if APS could provide it to her. APS provided her with Ms. Cade's contact information. APS asked if she had any questions, and she stated no.

On 10/02/24, in collaboration with APS worker Ms. Horton I interviewed Resident A's guardian via telephone. Resident A's guardian stated a few weeks ago, when Resident A was in the hospital, she was informed by licensee Ms. Pugh about the relationship between Resident A and Ms. Roland. Resident A's guardian stated Resident A called

Ms. Roland from the hospital. When she asked him why he called her he said they had a sexual relationship. Resident A's guardian stated she told Resident A that the relationship is inappropriate. Resident A's guardian stated she remembers a few months ago Resident A was complaining that someone stole his money. They called his card and there were several charges that he did not make. The charges totaled up to roughly \$1,000. At the time, Ms. Roland was Resident A's staff. Resident A's guardian stated Ms. Pugh purchased Resident A a lock box so that he would have a secure spot to store his money. Resident A's guardian stated the facility is not responsible for Resident A's funds. Resident A has a debit card in his guardian's name. Resident A can take money out of the bank. Resident A's guardian stated she see's Resident A approximately five times a month. There have been a few occasions that Ms. Roland has brought Resident A to his family's house on visits.

I reviewed Resident A's AFC assessment plan and his resident care agreement which indicate Resident A is able to manage his own money. Resident A's guardian does not agree to entrust the licensee with funds and/or valuables.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14204	Direct care staff; qualifications and training.
	(2) Direct care staff shall possess all of the following qualifications: (a) Be suitable to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs of each resident.
ANALYSIS:	Based on my investigation, direct care staff, Audra Roland was not suitable to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs of Resident A. Resident A is a vulnerable adult with a guardian. Resident A disclosed that he and Ms. Roland had a romantic and sexual relationship for the past 6-7 years. Ms. Roland had sexual intercourse with Resident A several times while she was an employee of this facility. Resident A provided proof of a nude photo of Ms. Roland taken in his bedroom at the facility. Licensee designee Leslie Pugh and Resident A confirm that the photo is of Ms. Roland and the picture was taken on Resident A's bed at the facility.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

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 investigation, Resident A was not treated with dignity and his personal needs, including protection and safety were not attended to at all times by direct care staff, Audra Roland. Resident A disclosed that Ms. Roland, who was an authority figure had sexual intercourse with Resident A for the past 6-7 years. In addition, Resident A disclosed that he had nude photo of Ms. Roland that was taken in his bedroom at the facility. Direct care staff Natasha Sales cooperated Resident A's testimony stating she found out that Resident A and Ms. Roland were involved in a romantic relationship in 2016 - 2017.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

ALLEGATION:

Residents are unsupervised.

INVESTIGATION:

On 09/20/24, I interviewed the reporting source via telephone. The reporting source stated on 09/17/24, she was asked to take a pizza to the home. When she arrived between 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Resident B and Resident C were home alone. Resident A was not present as he was in the hospital. The reporting source stated direct care staff Audra Roland was scheduled to work from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Ms. Roland left her scheduled shift leaving the resident's home alone. The reporting source stated she dropped off the pizza and left the home.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed licensee designee Leslie Pugh via telephone. Ms. Pugh stated on 09/17/24, direct care staff Audra Roland terminated her employment. She walked off shift leaving Resident B and Resident C home alone. Ms. Pugh stated she called direct care staff, Toniетta Dixon who arrived at the house 10 – 15 minutes later. Ms. Dixon worked until she was relieved by direct care staff Natasha Sales at 2:00 pm. Ms. Pugh stated she also went to the home. She arrived between 11:00 am – 11:30 am and she stayed until 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Ms. Pugh stated the residents have close head injuries; they are not combative, but they require 24/ 7 staffing and should not be left unsupervised.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed direct care staff Toniетta Dixon via telephone. Ms. Dixon stated on 09/17/24, Ms. Roland left her scheduled shift. As such, she was called in to work. Ms. Dixon arrived at the home at 9:30 am. Ms. Dixon stated Resident B and Resident C were home alone. They were fine, there were no issues or injuries. Ms. Dixon stated Ms. Pugh came to the house

later that day. When Ms. Pugh arrived, she stayed with the residents and Ms. Dixon left the house and went to get the residents pizza for lunch.

On 09/23/24, in collaboration with APS worker Estelita Horton I interviewed direct care staff Natasha Sales via telephone. Ms. Sales stated on 09/17/24, Ms. Pugh asked her to come in for her scheduled shift early. Ms. Sales was scheduled to work 4:00 pm – 12:00 am. Ms. Sales arrived at 2:00pm. Ms. Sales stated when she arrived at the home Ms. Dixon was on shift and Ms. Pugh was also at the house.

On 10/01/24, I interviewed Resident B. Resident B stated the home is regularly staffed 24/7. On 09/17/24, Ms. Roland left her shift leaving him and Resident C home alone. Resident B stated another staff arrived 1 – 2 minutes later. Resident B was unable to recall the name of the staff who arrived on shift. Resident B stated there were no issues while he and Resident C were home alone.

On 10/01/24, I completed an exit conference with licensee designee, Leslie Pugh. I reviewed my findings and recommendation with Ms. Pugh. Ms. Pugh acknowledged that a corrective action plan will be required. Ms. Pugh and I discussed re-training all staff in Reporting Requirements and/or Recipient Rights. Ms. Pugh again confirmed that the company does not oversee Resident A's finances. Resident A has a guardian, and he goes to the bank on the 1st of the month to take money out. It is not uncommon for Resident A to have a large amount of cash. Resident A has a lock box in his bedroom to store his money. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A has his own debit card which he uses independently. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A mentioned that he lost \$700 or \$900 that he was keeping in a cigarette pack in his bedroom. Ms. Pugh stated Resident A speculated that Ms. Roland took the money, but he had also left the home that day to go to his dialysis appointment. Ms. Pugh agreed to provide a copy of Resident A's AFC assessment plan and his resident care agreement.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14206	Staffing requirements.
	(1) The ratio of direct care staff to residents shall be adequate as determined by the department, to carry out the responsibilities defined in the act and in these rules and shall not be less than 1 direct care staff to 12 residents and children who are under the age of 12 years.
ANALYSIS:	Based on my investigation, on 09/17/24, direct care staff, Audra Roland abandoned her scheduled shift leaving Resident B and Resident C home alone, unsupervised. Per licensee designee, Leslie Pugh Resident B and Resident C require 24/7 supervision and protection.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan I recommend that this special investigation be closed with no change to the status of the license.

However, if further relevant information is obtained as a result of the Rochester Hill's police investigation this investigation may be reopened.

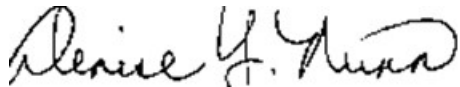


10/08/2024

Johnna Cade
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



10/10/2024

Denise Y. Nunn
Area Manager

Date