



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

January 7, 2025

Dennis Beemer
AFC Homes Corp
PO Box 417
406 W 5th
Ewart, MI 49631

RE: License #: AM670009368
Investigation #: 2025A0009008
Beemer Ewart Townhouse

Dear Mr. Beemer:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violation 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 the rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for the violation.
- A specific time frame 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 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 (616) 356-0100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Adam Robarge".

Adam Robarge, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Suite 11
701 S. Elmwood
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 350-0939

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AM670009368
Investigation #:	2025A0009008
Complaint Receipt Date:	12/18/2024
Investigation Initiation Date:	12/19/2024
Report Due Date:	01/17/2025
Licensee Name:	AFC Homes Corp
Licensee Address:	PO Box 417 406 W 5th Ewart, MI 49631
Licensee Telephone #:	(616) 446-5647
Administrator:	Dennis Beemer
Licensee Designee:	Dennis Beemer
Name of Facility:	Beemer Ewart Townhouse
Facility Address:	406 W. Fifth Street Ewart, MI 49631
Facility Telephone #:	(231) 734-3810
Original Issuance Date:	11/23/1983
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	05/03/2023
Expiration Date:	05/02/2025
Capacity:	12
Program Type:	DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED MENTALLY ILL & AGED

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Direct care worker Deanne Beech has been observed using marijuana while at the facility.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

12/18/2024	Special Investigation Intake 2025A0009008
12/19/2024	Special Investigation Initiated - Letter Email sent to adult protective services worker Adam Hawkins
12/19/2024	Contact – Document (email) received from adult protective services worker Adam Hawkins
12/20/2024	Inspection Complete – Onsite Interviews with Resident A, direct care worker Jean Beech, volunteer Barbara Chapman, direct care worker Destiny Shinn and Resident B
12/23/2024	Contact – Telephone call made to direct care worker Deanne Beech
01/07/2025	Contact – Telephone call made to licensee designee Dennis Beemer
01/07/2025	Exit conference with licensee designee Dennis Beemer

ALLEGATION: Direct care worker Deanne Beech has been observed using marijuana while at the facility.

INVESTIGATION: I made contact by email with adult protective services worker Adam Hawkins on December 19, 2024. I referenced my previous investigation (SI #2025A0009004) in which direct care worker Deanne Beech had allowed a resident to take another resident's medication. Adult protective services (APS) also investigated the matter. Mr. Hawkins confirmed that APS had substantiated the case.

I conducted an unannounced site visit at the Beemer Evart Townhouse adult foster care home on December 20, 2024. I observed Resident A smoking on a front porch of the home. He recognized me from my recent visit to the home. I spoke with him for some time and he asked me why I was there. I told him that I had received a

report that a staff there had been observed smoking marijuana. I asked him if he knew anything about that. Resident A hesitated but then volunteered that staff Deanne Beech has smoked marijuana with him in the past. He said that it started about a year ago and ended about six months ago. He said that it ended because she stopped smoking with them in the resident smoking area and started smoking in the back of the home. I asked him how he knew she was using marijuana. He said that he knows because he uses marijuana and knows what it is. I asked him to describe how Ms. Beech had used marijuana in his presence. He said that she uses "dabs". I asked him to describe what a dab is. He said that it is small amounts of marijuana oil which she heats with a "mini-torch". She then inhales the resulting smoke through a pipe. He denied that she shared it with him, saying that he has his own marijuana to use. He stated that he has a medical marijuana card and that his Community Mental Health caseworker is aware of his use. Resident A said that he really likes Ms. Beech and doesn't want her to get in trouble but acknowledged that it did occur when she was working. He denied that he has ever known any other staff there to use marijuana. He believes they are well-cared for and likes living there. I asked him if any of the other residents were aware of Ms. Beech's marijuana use. He replied that Resident B is the other resident in the home who uses marijuana. Ms. Beech has also used marijuana in his presence. None of the other residents would know due to them not being smokers and/or being elderly. I asked Resident A if I could enter the home and if he would let a staff person know I was there.

I then spoke with direct care worker Jean Beech. I knew from previous visits to the facility that Jean Beech is the mother of Deanne Beech. After some preliminary discussion, I asked her about staff using marijuana at the home. Jean Beech said that she didn't know anything about staff using marijuana. She said that she does smell it because two residents who live there smoke marijuana. There is also a marijuana processing plant in town and one can sometimes smell marijuana in the air. I told her that it had been reported that one staff in particular has used marijuana at the facility. I asked her if she had to guess, who she thought that might be. Jean Beech became emotional and said that if she had to guess, she would guess Deanne. I asked her why she would guess that. She said it was because out of her children who work there, Deanne is the only one who uses marijuana. Jean Beech went on to say that she hoped that her daughter would have enough sense not to use it at the home. She denied that she had ever known her to use it while working. Jean Beech also denied that Deanne had been in any trouble relating to her marijuana use in the past. I asked to speak with other staff who were present.

I spoke with Barbara Chapman who is a volunteer at the facility. I knew her from previous visits and knew that she volunteered there several hours each week. I asked her if she had any knowledge of a staff person using marijuana. She said no, that she does not smoke and does not use the smoking areas. Ms. Chapman said she is aware that two of the younger residents do use marijuana. She has not known staff to use marijuana and is not aware of any staff person working while under the influence of an intoxicating substance.

I then spoke with direct care worker Destiny Shinn. She also denied knowledge of any staff using marijuana at the facility. I asked her about Deanne Beech. She told me that she is Ms. Beech's daughter and has not known her mother to use marijuana. She said that her mother only uses cigarettes. They smoke in the smoking areas of the home. Her mother usually smokes in the rear smoking area. I asked if I could view the rear smoking area which is designated for staff use. Ms. Shinn took me to the rear smoking area. I did not observe any obvious evidence of marijuana use in that area or in the ash receptacle.

I then spoke with Resident B. His speech was halting as it would take him time to think of a word he wanted to use but I found him coherent and oriented to time and place. He said that he does use cigarettes and smokes marijuana. He agreed that cigarettes and marijuana are two different things. I asked him if there are any staff who use marijuana. He replied that Deanne (Beech) does. I asked him how he knew. He said that she goes outside to smoke marijuana and he sees her doing it. Resident B said that he knew it was not cigarettes because he knows what cigarettes look like. He said that she smokes cigarettes as well as marijuana. I asked him to describe how she uses the marijuana. He said that she uses "dabs". He stated that she uses a "torch" to heat it up. Resident B said that he was sure that she used marijuana, as he knows exactly what it is. Resident B said that he believed that she has used marijuana while working. He denied that she ever provided him with marijuana and that he is able to get and use his own. Resident B denied that he had ever known any of the other staff to use marijuana.

I spoke with direct care worker Deanne Beech by telephone on December 23, 2024. She said that she does use marijuana but not at work. I asked her why someone has reported that she has used marijuana at work. Ms. Beech replied that she smokes (cigarettes) on the back steps of the home. She said that the way she sits there might look like she is hiding something, but she is not. Ms. Beech said that she previously used a vape (a device that turns a liquid chemical into an aerosol which is then inhaled). She said that it was the same kind of vape that others use to smoke marijuana. Someone might have assumed she was using marijuana. I pressed her about why someone would specifically say that they saw her using marijuana. Ms. Beech admitted that there had been a few times when someone had brought her marijuana at the facility after her work shift was completed. I told her that the complaint was that she was observed using marijuana. Ms. Beech said that there was one time that she did smoke marijuana at the facility in the back after her work shift was completed. She said that all the residents were inside the facility. Ms. Beech admitted that it was possible that one of the residents came out to ask her for a cigarette and saw her smoking marijuana. I asked her why she had previously smoked in the front with the residents and then moved to the back of the home to smoke. Ms. Beech replied that she had been told that she was being "too friendly" with the residents and needed to smoke in another area.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14204	Direct care staff; qualifications and training.

	<p>(2) Direct care staff shall possess all of the following qualifications:</p> <p>(a) Be suitable to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs of each resident.</p>
ANALYSIS:	<p>A report was received that direct care worker Deanne Beech had been observed using marijuana at the facility. Two residents who spend time in the smoking area corroborated this information. They both had a similar account of her smoking in their presence and the method in which she used it. Ms. Beech, herself, admitted to receiving marijuana at the facility and then using it on at least one occasion. She insisted that she was "off the clock" at those times. Ms. Beech did say it was possible that one of the residents observed her using it unbeknownst to her.</p> <p>It was confirmed through this investigation that direct care worker Deanne Beech was not suitable to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual and/or social needs of each resident when she was under the influence of marijuana at the facility.</p>
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

I conducted an exit conference by telephone with the licensee designee Dennis Beemer on January 7, 2025. I told him of the findings of my investigation and gave him the opportunity to ask questions.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

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



01/07/2025

Adam Robarge
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



01/07/2025

Jerry Hendrick
Area Manager

Date

