



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

Michael Bach
Copper Country Community Mental Health Svcs Bd
901 W Memorial Drive, Houghton, MI 49931

August 27, 2026

RE: License #: AM310008381
Investigation #: 2026A0873015 - Portage House

Dear Mr. Bach:

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 (616) 356-0100.

Sincerely,

Garrett Peters, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Unit 13, 7th Floor
350 Ottawa, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(906) 250-9318
enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AM310008381
Investigation #:	2026A0873015
Complaint Receipt Date:	07/20/2026
Investigation Initiation Date:	07/20/2026
Report Due Date:	09/18/2026
Licensee Name:	Copper Country Community Mental Health Srvs Bd
Licensee Address:	901 W Memorial Drive Houghton, MI 49931
Licensee Telephone #:	(906) 482-9400
Administrator:	Michael Bach
Licensee Designee:	Michael Bach
Name of Facility:	Portage House
Facility Address:	1400 Ravine Side Dr Houghton, MI 49931
Facility Telephone #:	(906) 487-1746
Original Issuance Date:	09/01/1983
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	03/24/2026
Expiration Date:	03/23/2028
Capacity:	8
Program Type:	DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Resident A was confined to her bedroom.	Yes
Additional Findings	No

III. METHODOLOGY

07/20/2026	Special Investigation Intake 2026A0873015
07/20/2026	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Interview with Todd Mattson
07/24/2026	Inspection Completed On-site
07/24/2026	Contact - Face to Face Interview with Kangas
08/27/2026	APS Referral APS aware
09/04/2026	Contact – Telephone call made Interview with Nicolas Harris

ALLEGATION:

Resident A was confined to her bedroom.

INVESTIGATION:

On 7/17/26, I received a telephone call from Copper Country community mental health licensee designee representative Todd Mattson. The facility day shift had come into the facility and found that the shift before them had used something to tie around Resident A's bedroom doorknob to lock her into her bedroom for the night. Resident B had been acting aggressively toward Resident A and was trying to get into her room.

On 7/24/26, I interviewed residential team leader Rhonda Kangas at the facility. When day shift came in on the morning of July 17th, they discovered Resident A's bedroom door was tied with a dog leash making it impossible to open. It was reported that Resident B was trying to get to Resident A and staff felt this was the only way to protect her and prevent Resident B from getting into the bedroom. Resident A slept through this incident and did not try to leave her room. It is believed that the dog leash was tied by employee Nicolas Harris.

On 9/4/26, I interviewed Nicholas Harris over the telephone. Resident B had hit Resident A about a month prior and, that night, was acting aggressively toward her. The lock on Resident A's bedroom door was not working properly and could be opened if twisted with enough force. Mr. Harris tied his dog leash around the door and the linen closet to help prevent Resident B from getting into Resident A's bedroom.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.641	Resident behavior interventions.
	(6) A licensee, staff, volunteers, or any person who lives in the facility shall not do any of the following: (b) Use any form of restraint without an order from an appropriately licensed health care professional or physical force, other than physical restraint for crisis intervention.
ANALYSIS:	Tying the leash around the bedroom door to prevent Resident B from entering Resident A's bedroom is considered a restraint on Resident A as she would not have been able to leave her bedroom either.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

On 9/8/26, I explained the findings of this report to Mr. Mattson. The employees that were on duty that night all received suspensions and explanations that practices such as this would not be tolerated.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no changes to the status of this license.

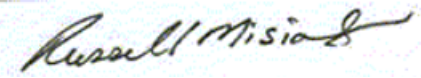


9/8/26

Garrett Peters
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



9/9/26

Russell B. Misiak
Area Manager

Date