



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600**

July 8, 2024

ELECTRONIC-FACSIMILE

Administrator
Ashley Gardens of Mt Vernon
3807 E College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Assisted Living Facility License # **1948**
Licensee: Cascade Living Group - Ashley Gardens LLC

IMPOSITION OF CIVIL FINE

Dear Administrator:

On June 21, 2024, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Residential Care Services completed a follow-up visit at your facility. This letter constitutes formal notice of a civil fine on the license for your assisted living facility, also known as **Ashley Gardens of Mt Vernon**, located at **3807 E College Way, Mount Vernon**, by the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services. These actions are taken under the authority granted pursuant to Laws of 1998, Chapter 272 and RCW 18.20.190.

The civil fine on the license is based on the following violation of the RCW and/or WAC as described in the attached Statement of Deficiencies (SOD) report dated June 21, 2024.

Civil Fine

WAC 388-78A-2610(1) Infection control.

\$600.00

The licensee failed to follow infection control measures by not ensuring seven staff had been fit-tested for an N95 respirator (a respiratory protective device designed to achieve a very close facial fit and very efficient filtration of airborne particles). This failure resulted in seven staff not being fit-tested for a respirator in the event of an infectious respiratory disease outbreak and placed all 21 residents at a higher risk of contracting a communicable disease.

This is an uncorrected deficiency previously cited on March 19, 2024.

NOTE: This is the violation, which resulted in the fine; see the attached Statement of Deficiencies for any additional violations.

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Attestation (Plan of Correction):

Return the enclosed SOD within 10 calendar days with the following:

- The date you have or will have each deficiency corrected;
- A signature and date attesting that you are taking actions to correct and maintain correction for each cited deficiency.

Return the signed and dated SOD to:

Kim Ripley, Field Manager
Region 2, Unit A
3906 172nd St NE Suite 100
Arlington, WA 98223
Phone: (206) 794-8568 / Fax: (360) 651-6940
rcsregion2email@dshs.wa.gov

Appeal Rights:

You have two appeal rights: Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) and an Administrative Hearing. Each has a different request timeline.

Informal Dispute Resolution [RCW 18.20.195]

You have an opportunity to challenge the deficiencies and/or enforcement actions through the state's IDR process. **All IDR requests must be in writing and include:**

- The deficiencies you are disputing; and
- The method of review you prefer (face-to-face, telephone conference or documentation review).

The written request must be received by the 10th working day from receipt of this letter.

During the IDR process, you will have the opportunity to present written and/or oral evidence to dispute the deficiencies.

Send your **written** request to:

Informal Dispute Resolution Program Manager
Residential Care Services
PO Box 45600
Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

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Formal Administrative Hearing

You may contest the civil fine by requesting a formal administrative hearing to challenge the deficiency, which resulted in the civil fine. **All hearing requests must be in writing and include:**

- A copy of this letter; and
- A copy of the Statement of Deficiencies.

The written request must be received within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of receipt of this letter.

Send your **written** request to:

Office of Administrative Hearings
PO Box 42489
Olympia, Washington 98504-2489

Payment:

If you do not request a formal administrative hearing, the civil fine is due to the Office of Financial Recovery twenty-eight (28) calendar days after receipt of this letter.

Mail a check for **\$600.00** payable to the 'Department of Social and Health Services', **and if you have or have had a Medicaid resident(s), please include your ProviderOne ID Number # on the check,** to:

DSHS Office of Financial Recovery
PO Box 9501
Olympia, WA 98507-9501
(360) 664-5919 / FAX: (360) 664-8401
OFRMMISVendor@dshs.wa.gov

If the Office of Financial Recovery has not received your payment within twenty-eight (28) days after receipt of this letter, interest will begin to accrue immediately on the balance, at the rate of one percent per month. If you do not submit a hearing request or make payment within twenty-eight (28) days, the balance due will be recovered.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kim Ripley, Field Manager, at (206) 794-8568.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matt Hauser', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matt Hauser
Compliance Specialist
Residential Care Services

Enclosure

cc: Field Manager, Region 2, Unit A
RCS Regional Administrator, Region 2
HCS Regional Administrator, Region 2
DDA Regional Administrator, Region 2
WA LTC Ombuds
Office of Financial Recovery, Vendor Program Unit
HQ Central Files
DRW
HP