



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

August 21, 2024

ELECTRONIC-FACSIMILE

Administrator
Covenant Living West
9115 Fortuna Drive
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Assisted Living Facility License # **958**
Licensee: Covenant Living West

IMPOSITION OF CIVIL FINES

Dear Administrator:

On August 7, 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 civil fines on the license for your assisted living facility, also known as **Covenant Living West**, located at **9115 Fortuna Drive, Mercer Island**, 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 fines on the license are based on the following violation of the RCW and/or WAC as described in the attached Statement of Deficiencies (SOD) report dated August 7, 2024.

Civil Fines

<u>WAC 388-78A-2466(1)(a) Background checks—Washington state name and date of birth background check—Valid for two years—National fingerprint background check—Valid indefinitely.</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
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The licensee failed to ensure the Washington State name and date of birth background inquiry (BGI) for one staff was renewed before the two-year expiration. This resulted in 38 residents receiving services from staff whose criminal background history was unknown.

This is an uncorrected deficiency previously cited on June 3, 2024, and recurring deficiency previously cited on August 4, 2022.

WAC 388-78A-2474(1)(2)(c) Training and home care aide certification requirements. **\$300.00**

The licensee failed to ensure one staff received specialty training for dementia and mental health. This failure placed 32 residents, identified with cognitive impairment or mental health diagnosis, at risk of harm due to an untrained care staff.

This is an uncorrected deficiency previously cited on June 3, 2024.

WAC 388-78A-2480(1) Tuberculosis—Testing—Required. **\$300.00**

The licensee failed to ensure tuberculosis (TB) screening was initiated for one staff within three days of employment. This placed 38 residents at risk for contracting TB, a communicable disease.

This is an uncorrected deficiency previously cited on June 3, 2024.

WAC 388-78A-2730(1)(b) Licensee's responsibilities. **\$400.00**

The licensee failed to implement federal, and state regulated standards of a Respiratory Protection Program (RPP) to include implementing respirator mask fit-testing for healthcare workers. This placed 38 residents, staff, and visitors at potential risk for exposure to COVID-19 (an infectious disease by a virus causing respiratory illness with symptoms including cough, fever, new or worsening malaise, headache, or new dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, and in severe cases difficulty breathing that could result in severe impairment or death).

This is an uncorrected deficiency previously cited on June 3, 2024.

NOTE: These are the violations, which resulted in the fines; see the attached Statement of Deficiencies for any additional violations.

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.

Administrator
Covenant Living West
License # 958
August 21, 2024
Page 3

Return the signed and dated SOD to:

Jamie Singer, Field Manager
Region 2, Unit J
20311 52nd Avenue West Suite 100
Lynnwood, WA 98036
Phone: (253) 312-1446 / Fax: (206) 971-6971
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

Formal Administrative Hearing

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

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

Administrator
Covenant Living West
License # 958
August 21, 2024
Page 4

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 fines are due to the Office of Financial Recovery twenty-eight (28) calendar days after receipt of this letter.

Mail a check for **\$1,400.00** 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.

Administrator
Covenant Living West
License # 958
August 21, 2024
Page 5

If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Singer, Field Manager, at (253) 312-1446.

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 J
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