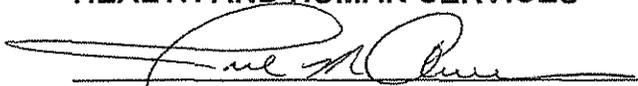


~~3. Any information which is confidential by state statute shall not be released to the public and any pictures of any children referred to in this matter shall not be released to the public.~~

DATED this 6th day of March, 2012.

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**



Joseph M. Acierno, MD, JD
Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Division of Public Health
Department of Health and Human
Services

~~WHEREFORE~~ the Department moves the Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the Division of Public Health for an Emergency Order suspending the child care license of Sonja M. Merrick and prohibiting Ms. Merrick from providing care for any children until the Department completes its investigation related to the injuries to the child.

**Nebraska Department of Health
and Human Services**

Dated: 3/6/12

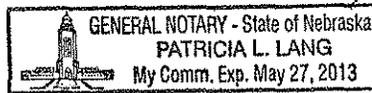


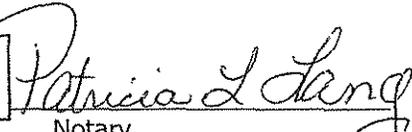
Teresa M. Hampton #16746
P.O. Box 95026
Legal Services
Department of Health and Human
Services
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5026
(402) 471-4051
Its Attorney

entered prohibiting Merrick from providing care until the investigation of the injury to the child is completed.


Lori Pflanz Jerkovic
Child Care Inspection Specialist

Dated this 6 day of March, 2012




Notary

~~THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES~~
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
STATE OF NEBRASKA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME I
LICENSE OF SONJA
MERRICK

)
)
)
)
)

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEBRASKA

)

COUNTY OF LANCASTER

) ss
)

Comes now Affiant, Patricia Urzedowski, being first duly sworn, and states as follows:

1. I am employed as the Administrator of the Office of Children's Services Licensing with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health (hereinafter "Department").
2. The records of the Department show that Sonja Merrick (hereafter "Merrick") holds a Family Child Care Home I license at the address of 5268 W. Redberry Lane, Lincoln, NE 68528 from July 1, 2010 to present.
3. In my capacity as Administrator of the Office of Children's Services Licensing, I am the custodian of all licensing records for licensed Child Care Programs.
4. The records of the Department show that Merrick has been issued a citation for Child Abuse on March 2, 2012 by the Lincoln Police Department.
5. Based on the information contained in Lincoln Police Department Report and Affidavit signed by Lori Pflanz, Child Care Inspection Specialist, Sonja Merrick has violated the following Child Care Licensing Regulations:

391 NAC 4-001.04 **Suspension or Revocation:** The Department may initiate suspension or revocation proceedings under any of the following circumstances:

2. When a licensee has violated a regulation(s) so as to create a situation which places children at substantial risk;
3. When a complaint of suspected child abuse or neglect has been filed; ...
7. When a licensee has violated any state statute regarding the care and protection of children;
11. When there is a conviction, admission, or substantial evidence of any offenses against children or adults including, but not limited to: physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual assault, neglect, or endangerment by the child care provider;

391 NAC 6-001 **Provider.** ...

The child care provider shall assume responsibility for providing adequate and appropriate supervision at all times children are in attendance. Any designated substitute shall have the same responsibility for providing adequate and appropriate supervision. ...

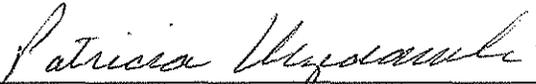
The child care provider shall report to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services within 24 hours or next business day when the following conditions occur within the child care program: the death of any child; any accident to children which requires hospitalization; or treatment at a medical facility.

The child care provider who has reason to believe child abuse or neglect may be occurring in the family child care home, in the child's home, or elsewhere, shall immediately file a report with the Child Abuse-Neglect Hotline - 1-800-652-1999, and/or appropriate local law enforcement agency.

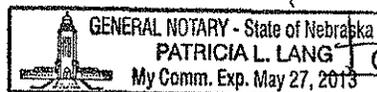
391 NAC 6-011.03 **Discipline:** The child care provider and/or his/her designated substitute is prohibited from using the following as a means of punishment:

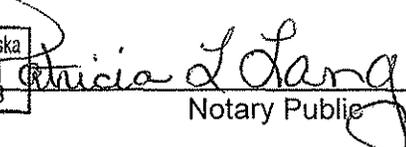
1. Spanking, slapping, punching, shaking, striking with any inanimate object, handling roughly, or biting; ...

Further affiant saith not.


Patricia Urzedowski, Administrator
Office of Children's Services Licensing

Subscribed and sworn before me this 6 day of March, 2012.




Notary Public