

**BEFORE THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION OF THE  
STATE OF DELAWARE**

**IN RE: COLBY L. NORWOOD**

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**Case No.: SFC-25-00004**

**EMT I.D. NO.: 93723**

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**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

A written Complaint and Motion for Temporary Suspension ("Complaint") has been filed with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission ("Commission") alleging that Colby L. Norwood ("Respondent"), an emergency medical technician ("EMT") in the State of Delaware, license number 93723, has engaged in conduct which constitutes grounds for discipline under 16 *Del. C. Ch. 67* and the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations.

Respondent and the State, by the undersigned Deputy Attorney General, hereby enter into this Consent Agreement to be submitted to the Commission for review and approval.

**IT IS UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED THAT:**

1. Respondent is a resident of Millsboro, Delaware and is certified as an emergency medical technician ("EMT") in Delaware pursuant to the provisions of 16 *Del. C. Ch. 67*.
2. Respondent's Delaware EMT Certification, I.D. Number 93723, was originally issued on January 4, 2013 and expires on April 30, 2027.
3. At all times relevant, Respondent was employed as an EMT at Lewes Fire Company in Lewes, Delaware.
4. *Delaware Basic Life Support Protocols, Guidelines and Standing Orders for Prehospital and Interfacility Patients*<sup>1</sup> ("*BLS Protocols*") for Introduction and EMT Standard of Care states as to Transport Requirements, in part, as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Effective November 1, 2024.

- Transfer patient to ambulance using the most appropriate means necessary while not exacerbating the patient(s) symptoms.

5. *BLS Protocols* for General Patient Care (Adult) states, in part, as follows:

Indications:

- Any patient, who is greater than or equal to the age of 15 years, requiring prehospital medical evaluation by a prehospital health care provider in the State of Delaware.
- The General Patient Care protocol will be followed in conjunction with all other applicable protocols.
- A patient is an individual who is sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or helpless and seeks immediate medical attention for whom EMS has been activated. A person that denies the need for medical treatment and/or transport, but any reasonable EMS provider can see that a person(s) has an obvious injury or illness, should be considered a patient and treated as such.
- The most current version of the American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation is considered the standard for CPR within these protocols.
  - ...
  - On scene direction of medical care is provided by the on-duty Delaware EMS provider with the highest level of licensure and/or certification. Rescue operations and control of the scene remains under the direction of the Fire Officer in Charge.
  - ....

6. Section 3.0 of 710 Ambulance Service Regulations, Section 3.0 provides the following relevant definitions:

- a. "Advanced Life Support" ("ALS") means the advanced level of pre-hospital and inter hospital emergency care that includes basic life support functions including cardiopulmonary resuscitation, plus cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation, electrocardiography, administration of anti arrhythmic agents, intravenous therapy, administration of specific medications, drugs and solutions, use of adjunctive medical devices, trauma care and other authorized techniques and procedures.
- b. "Paramedic" means a person who has successfully completed a course approved by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline or its duly authorized representative, documented by OEMS, recognized by the Commission as a Delaware EMT while in the performance of their duties with a county paramedic service or State agency.
- c. "Basic Life Support" ("BLS") means the level of capability which provides EMT emergency patient care designed to optimize the patient's chances of surviving an emergency situation.

7. BLS units are staffed with employees who, at a minimum, are certified EMTs. Paramedics staff ALS units. Paramedics hold a higher level of licensure and/or certification than EMTs.

8. On January 9, 2025, while working as an EMT for Lewes Fire Company, Respondent and EMT San Juan A. Felton responded to a medical call for a sick person on Maple

Road, Lewes, Delaware.

9. ALS was also dispatched, arriving at the patient shortly before BLS. ALS consisted of two paramedics and a paramedic in training.

10. The patient had lung cancer and was complaining of shortness of breath. The patient had mild respiratory distress and appeared generally ill. The patient was having difficulty moving around.

11. Multiple times, the paramedics requested that BLS bring a stair chair in to transfer the patient from her chair out of the residence and to the stretcher at the bottom of the porch steps. BLS disregarded all the requests for a stair chair made by the paramedics.

12. Respondent and EMT Felton assisted the patient to a standing position and assisted her in walking out of the residence, across a porch, down a set of stairs and placed her on the stretcher. Once on the stretcher, the patient was placed in the ambulance for transport.

13. The patient went into cardiac arrest shortly after being placed in the ambulance. ALS initiated CPR and transport was initiated to the hospital. The patient passed away.

14. Respondent has violated Part 710, Section 18.4.1.4 in that he has violated protocols.

15. Respondent has violated Part 710, Section 18.4.1.5 in that he has violated or aided or abetted in the violation of any provision of this regulation.

16. Respondent has violated Part 710, Section 18.4.1.7 in that he has engaged in unprofessional conduct, specifically 18.4.2.3 in that he has engaged in any dishonorable, unethical, or other conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.

17. Respondent has violated Part 710, Section 18.4.2.13 in that he engaged in a violation of a provision of this regulation, the violation of which more probably than not will harm or injure the public or an individual.

18. Respondent admits that the allegations set forth in paragraphs one (1) through seventeen (17) above are true and correct.

19. Respondent and the State agree that the appropriate disciplinary sanctions shall be as follows:

- a. Respondent's EMT certification shall be placed on probation for a period of six (6) months from the date the Commission signs the Order.
- b. Respondent shall be issued a letter of reprimand.
- c. Respondent shall engage in an educational meeting with Patrick Matthews, MD, the Delaware BLS Medical Director, at a time scheduled by Dr. Patrick Matthews to discuss the incident and be remediated in areas of patient care and related protocols and any other areas of concern related to this incident.
- d. If Respondent fails to appear for the educational meeting addressed in paragraph 19(c) above, his EMT certification will be immediately suspended without further hearing by the Commission.
- e. If Respondent is suspended pursuant to paragraph 19(d) above, such suspension will not lift until Respondent files a written petition and appears in person before the Commission to address his request to lift the suspension. After hearing Respondent's petition to lift the suspension, the Commission may deny the request or may lift the suspension and may impose any additional discipline it deems appropriate to protect the public from harm.
- f. Respondent shall notify the Commission within ten (10) days of any change of his residential address or EMT-related employment.

20. The parties to this Consent Agreement are the State of Delaware and Respondent.

21. The parties agree and acknowledge that nothing contained in this Consent Agreement shall affect any rights or interests of any person not a party to this Agreement.

22. Respondent acknowledges that he is waiving his rights under the State Fire Prevention Regulations and 29 *Del. C.* Ch. 101 to a hearing before the Commission prior to the imposition of disciplinary sanctions.

23. Respondent acknowledges that he has carefully read and understands this Consent Agreement, and is entering into this Consent Agreement freely, knowingly, voluntarily, and after having received or having been afforded the opportunity to receive the advice of counsel.

24. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 29 *Del. C.* § 10002 and will be available for public inspection and copying as provided for by 29 *Del. C.* § 10003.

25. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Consent Agreement is subject to approval by the Commission.

26. The parties acknowledge and agree that if the Commission does not accept this Consent Agreement, it shall have no force or effect, except as follows:

- a. Neither Respondent, nor anyone on his behalf, will in any way or in any forum challenge the ability of the Commission or any of its members to conduct an evidentiary hearing relating to the allegations in the subject Complaint;
- b. The Consent Agreement, or conduct or statements made in negotiating the Consent Agreement, will be inadmissible at any administrative, civil or criminal legal proceeding; and
- c. No provision contained in the Agreement shall constitute or have the effect of an admission by the Respondent as to any fact alleged in the Complaint in this

matter or in this Agreement.

27. If the Commission accepts the Consent Agreement and enters it as an Order, the Consent Agreement shall be admissible as evidence at any future proceedings before the Commission.

28. Respondent understands and acknowledges that the Commission will report this Consent Agreement to the licensing authority of any other state in which he is licensed to practice.

29. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Consent Agreement, along with any exhibits, addendums, or amendments hereto, encompasses the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all previous understandings and agreements between the parties, whether oral or written. There are no other terms, obligations, covenants, representations, statements or conditions, or otherwise, of any kind whatsoever concerning this agreement.

30. This Consent Agreement shall be effective upon acceptance by the Commission and entry of the Commission's Order.



Colby L. Norwood  
Respondent

Dated: 18 July 2025



Renee Hrivnak (ID# 3742)  
Deputy Attorney General

Dated: 7/22/2025

**BEFORE THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF  
DELAWARE**

**IN RE: COLBY L. NORWOOD**

**EMT I.D. NO. 93723**

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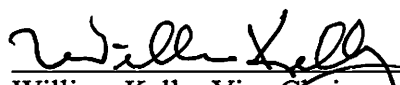
**Case No.: SFC-25-00004**


**ORDER**

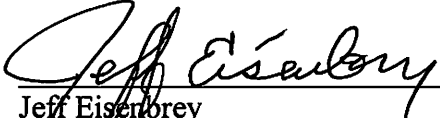
**WHEREAS**, the Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission has reviewed this matter and hereby approves the Consent Agreement of the parties, and enters it now as an Order of the Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission;

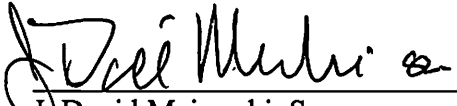
**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025

  
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Ronald H. Marvel, Chairman

  
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William Kelly, Vice Chairman

  
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Lynn Truitt

  
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Jeff Eisenbrey

  
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David Majewski, Sr.

  
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Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.

  
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Ron O'Neal