

STATE OF NEW YORK : DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IN THE MATTER

OF

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D., as Commissioner of Health
of the State of New York, to determine the action to be taken
with respect to:

Townhouse Operating Co., LLC

Respondent,

as operator of

Townhouse Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing
755 Hempstead Turnpike
Uniondale, New York 11553

STIPULATION

AND

ORDER

NH-18-029

arising out of alleged violations of Article 28 of the Public Health
Law of the State of New York and Title 10 of the Official Compilation
of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health ("the Department") has made findings based upon an inspection of the Townhouse Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing ("the Facility"); and

WHEREAS, the Department completed its inspection of the Facility on February 2, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Department's inspection findings included alleged violations of Article 28 of the Public Health Law (PHL) and Part 415 of Title 10 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (10 NYCRR Part 415); and

WHEREAS, prior to commencement of administrative enforcement action based upon the alleged violations by service of a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges, the Department and the Respondent engaged in settlement discussions; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to resolve this matter by means of a settlement instead of an adversarial administrative hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS STIPULATED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. This matter is settled and discontinued with prejudice. The Department shall not pursue administrative enforcement action against the Respondent pursuant to PHL Article 28 and 10 NYCRR Part 415 in connection with the findings set forth in the Statement of Deficiencies dated February 2, 2018.

2. The Respondent admits, to resolve this administrative matter, to the existence of substantial evidence of violations of 10 NYCRR § 415.12(k)(6), 415.15(b)(1)(i)(ii), 415.26 and 415.15(a), based upon the findings set forth in the Statement of Deficiencies dated February 2, 2018. The foregoing admission is without prejudice to the Respondent's rights, defenses, and claims in any other matter, proceeding, action, hearing, or litigation not involving the Department or any of its boards or councils authorized by the Public Health Law, including but not limited to those involving medical malpractice, personal injury, and/or negligence that may be made in a civil action for monetary damages. The Department acknowledges that a post-survey revisit of the Facility conducted on March 14, 2018 found the Facility back in substantial compliance with PHL Article 28 and 10 NYCRR Part 415.

3. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000) within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Stipulation and Order. Six Thousand Dollars (\$6000) is hereby assessed pursuant to PHL §§ 12(1)(a) and 206, and Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) is hereby assessed pursuant to PHL § 12(1)(c). Payment of this civil penalty shall be sent by certified mail and shall be made payable to the New York State Department of Health and forwarded to the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Accounts Management, Room 2748, Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12237-0016. Any civil penalty not paid by the date prescribed herein shall be subject to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by the State of New York. This includes, but is not limited to, the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees, referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and

Finance for collection, and non-renewal of permits or licenses [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].

4. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude the Department from pursuing any and all sanctions or remedies authorized by the Public Health Law against any individual employed by or practicing in association with the Facility for any violations based upon the findings set forth in the Statement of Deficiencies dated February 2, 2018. Such sanctions and remedies may include, but are not limited to, administrative proceedings brought pursuant to PHL § 2803-d (relating to patient abuse, mistreatment, or neglect), PHL § 230 (relating to professional medical conduct), and PHL Article 28-D (relating to the practice of nursing home administration). A copy of this Stipulation and Order shall be sent to the Bureau of Nursing Home Administrator Licensure for whatever action, if any, it may deem appropriate. Nor shall this Stipulation and Order be construed to preclude the Department, the Public Health and Health Planning Council, or any other boards or councils authorized by the Public Health Law from considering the Department's findings referenced herein in any matter before it.

5. It is further stipulated and agreed by the Respondent and the Department that there exist valid and sufficient grounds, as a matter of fact and law, for the issuance of this Stipulation and Order under the Public Health Law and the Respondent consents to its issuance, accepts its terms and conditions and waives any right to challenge this Stipulation and Order in a proceeding pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules or in any other action or proceeding.

6. This Stipulation and Order shall be effective upon service on the Respondent or the Respondent's attorney or representative of a fully executed copy by personal service or by certified or registered mail.

DATED: Nassau County New York
May 22, 2018

Townhouse Operating Co., LLC

BY: Meredith Ritchie

Print Name: Meredith Ritchie

AGREED AND SO ORDERED:

DATED: Albany, New York
June 13, 2018

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Howard A. Zucker

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner of Health

Inquiries to: Mark Fleischer, Director
Bureau of Administrative Hearings
Phone: (518) 473-1707
Email: mark.fleischer@health.ny.gov

Mail Stipulation and Order to:

Mark Fleischer, Esq.
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower Building, Room 2412
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237-0029

Mail Payment to:

New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Accounts Management
Corning Tower, Room 2748
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237-0016



**Department
of Health**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 18, 2018

Ms. Barbara Stegun Phair, Esq.
Abrams, Fensterman
3 Dakota Drive – Suite 300
Lake Success, New York 11042

Re: Enforcement Action
February 2, 2017 Survey

Dear Ms. Phair:

Enclosed please find a copy of the fully executed Stipulation and Order in the above-referenced matter.

In accordance with Paragraph 3 of the Stipulation and Order, the operator now has 30 days to send payment of the civil penalty, in the amount of \$16,000, to the Department's Bureau of Accounts Management, Corning Tower, Room 2748, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12237-0016.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Mark Fleischer, Director
Bureau of Administrative Hearings

Enclosure