

**STATE OF TENNESSEE
BEFORE THE HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION**

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|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In The Matter of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Brookdale Belle Meade, |) | |
| Assisted Care Living Facility, |) | |
| License No. 199, |) | Case No. 2024028091 |
| |) | |
| Respondent. |) | |
| |) | |
| Nashville, Tennessee |) | |

CONSENT ORDER

This matter came to be heard before the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission (“Commission”), by and through the Office of Legal Services, and Brookdale Belle Meade (“Respondent”) that the Commission adopt this Consent Order, the terms of which have been agreed upon by the parties, as signified by their signatures below.

I. JURISDICTION

1. The Commission is empowered to license and regulate hospitals, recuperation centers, nursing homes, homes for the aged, residential HIV supportive living facilities, assisted-care living facilities, home care organizations, residential hospices, birthing centers, prescribed childcare centers, renal dialysis clinics, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, outpatient diagnostic centers, adult care homes, and traumatic brain injury residential homes. T.C.A. § 68-11-202(a)(1).
2. The Commission has the authority to conduct reviews of all facilities licensed under this part in order to determine compliance with fire and life safety code rules as promulgated by the Commission. T.C.A. § 68-11-202(b)(1)(A).

3. “Assisted-care living facility” (“ACLF”) means a facility, building, establishment, complex or distinct part thereof that accepts primarily aged persons for domiciliary care and services. T.C.A. § 68-11-201(4)(A) and Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0720-26-.02(7).
4. “Primarily aged” means that a minimum of fifty-one percent (51%) of the population of the facility is at least sixty-two (62) years of age. Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0720-26-.02(34).
5. An assisted-care living facility shall provide on-site to its residents room and board and non-medical living assistance services appropriate to each resident’s needs, such as assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, preparation of meals and other activities of daily living. T.C.A. § 68-11-201(4)(B) and Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0720-26-.02(2).
6. The Commission shall conduct on-site inspections and investigations as may be necessary to safeguard, and ensure at all times, the public’s health, safety, and welfare. T.C.A. § 68-11-210(c).
7. Upon a finding by the Commission that an ACLF has violated any provision of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 68-11-201, et seq., or the rules promulgated pursuant thereto, action may be taken, upon proper notice to the licensee, to impose a civil penalty, deny, suspend, or revoke its license. T.C.A. § 68-11-207.

II. STIPULATIONS OF FACT

8. At all times pertinent hereto, Respondent, Brookdale Belle Meade, 6767 Brookmont Terrace Nashville, Tennessee 37205, was licensed by the Commission as an ACLF, having been granted license number 199 on May 5, 2000, which currently has an expiration date of December 28, 2024.
9. From July 22, 2024, through July 23, 2024, Commission surveyors conducted an annual survey at the Respondent’s facility.

10. On or about July 22, 2024, Respondent's kitchen was observed to have black residue on the ceiling tiles, visible black residue and dust accumulation in the vent system over the food prep and counter area, black residue on the floors, baseboards, doors, and around cooking appliances and counter areas.
11. On or about July 22, 2024, Respondent's Dietary Manager admitted that the vents had black residue and dust around them, the floors, baseboards, doors, and areas around the cooking appliances and counters were all contaminated with dirty, black residue.
12. On or about July 23, 2024, Respondent's fire drill log verified that fire drills were not performed during sleeping hours during the second, third, and fourth quarter of 2023 and during the first and second quarter of 2024.
13. On or about July 23, 2024, Respondent's Maintenance Director and Administrator admitted that the fire drills during sleeping hours were not performed as required.

III. GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE

The facts in Section II are sufficient to establish that grounds exist for the discipline of Respondent's ACLF license. Specifically, Respondent has violated the following statutes and/or rules, for which disciplinary action by the Commission is authorized.

14. The facts in paragraphs ten (10) and eleven (11) are sufficient to constitute a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Regs. 0720-26-.07(7)(c)(5) [Services Provided], the relevant portion of which reads as follows:

(7) An ACLF shall provide personal services as follows:

(c) Dietary services.

5. An ACLF shall maintain a clean and sanitary kitchen.

15. The facts in paragraphs twelve (12) and thirteen (13) are sufficient to constitute a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Regs. 0720-26- 10 (3)(b) [Life Safety], the relevant portion of which reads as follows:

(3) An ACLF shall conduct fire drills in accordance with the following:

(b) There shall be one (1) fire drill per quarter during sleeping hours.

IV. REPRESENTATIONS OF RESPONDENT

16. Respondent understands and admits the allegations, charges, and stipulations in this Order.
17. Respondent understands the rights found in the Code, Rules, and the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, TENN. CODE ANN. §§ 4-5-101 thru 4-5-404, including the right to a hearing, the right to appear personally and by legal counsel, the right to confront and to cross-examine witnesses who would testify against Respondent, the right to testify and to present evidence on Respondent's own behalf, as well as to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents, as well as the right to appeal for judicial review. Respondent voluntarily waives these rights in order to avoid further administrative action.
18. Respondent agrees that presentation of this Order to the Commission and the Commission's consideration of it and all matters divulged during that process shall not constitute unfair disclosure such that the Commission or any of its members become prejudiced requiring their disqualification from hearing this matter should this Order not be ratified. All matters, admissions, and statements disclosed during the attempted ratification process shall not be used against the Respondent in any subsequent proceeding unless independently entered into evidence or introduced as admissions.

19. Respondent agrees that facsimile/PDF copies of this Order, including facsimile/PDF signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as originals.
20. Respondent also agrees that the Commission may issue this Order without further process. If the Commission rejects this Order for any reason, it will be of no force or effect for either party.
21. Respondent agrees that the facility has not received any threats or promises of any kind by the State or any agent or representative thereof, except such as is detailed herein.

V. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, agrees to the following:


22. Respondent is hereby assessed one (1) Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of **two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00)**. This CMP is issued for a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Regs. 0720-26-.07(7)(c)(5) [Services Provided] – failure to maintain a clean and sanitary kitchen.
23. Respondent is hereby assessed one (1) Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of **one-thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)**. This CMP is issued for a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Regs. 0720-26- 10 (3)(b) [Life Safety] – failure to conduct fire drills during sleeping hours.
24. The total assessed CMP amount is **three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00)**.
25. Additionally, Respondent must submit **proof of completion of fire drills** to the Commission at the below address.
26. Payment shall be submitted to the following address within **thirty (30) calendar days** of the effective date of this Order.

Tennessee Health Facilities Commission
Attention: Disciplinary Coordinator
665 Mainstream Drive, Second Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

**PLEASE DO NOT REMIT PAYMENT UNTIL THE CONSENT ORDER HAS
BEEN RATIFIED AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION**

27. Each condition of discipline herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:




Brookdale Belle Meade
Representative
License No. 199
Signature of Authorized Representative
Respondent



Emilia Akers
Printed Name of Authorized



Executive Director
Title of Authorized Representative



Jeremy Gourley (BPR # 022812)
Senior Associate General Counsel
Health Facilities Commission
Office of Legal Services
Andrew Jackson Building, 9th Floor
502 Deaderick Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243
Office: (615) 741-2364
Fax: (615) 741-9884
Email: Jeremy.J.Gourley@tn.gov

Approval by the Commission

Upon the agreement of the parties and the record as a whole, this **CONSENT ORDER** was approved as a **FINAL ORDER** by a majority of a quorum of the Health Facilities Commission at a public meeting of the Commission and signed this 11th day of December, 2024.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that the agreement of the parties does hereby become the Final Order of the Commission.



Chairperson
Health Facilities Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this document has been served upon the Respondent, Brookdale Belle Meade, c/o Administrator, Emilia Prunache, 6767 Brookmont Terrace Nashville, Tennessee 37205, and Brookdale Belle Meade, c/o Registered Agent, Corp. Service Company, 2908 Poston Ave., Nashville, Tennessee 37203, by delivering same in the United States regular mail and United States certified mail, numbers **7020 0640 0001 4807 2278** and **7020 0640 0001 4807 5521**, return receipts requested, with sufficient postage thereon to reach its destination. A copy was sent via electronic mail to: eprunache@brookdale.com.

This 11 day of Dec., 2024



Jeremy Gourley
Senior Associate General Counsel