

**STATE OF TENNESSEE
HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE BOARD FOR LICENSING HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

In The Matter of:)	
)	
The Bridge at Ooltewah)	
Assisted Care Living Facility)	
License No. 381,)	Case No. 2023019581
)	
Respondent.)	
)	
Ooltewah, Tennessee)	

CONSENT ORDER

This matter came to be heard before the Tennessee Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities (“Board”), pursuant to the request of the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission (“Commission”), by and through the Office of Legal Services, and The Bridge at Ooltewah (“Respondent”) that the Board 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 Board has the power 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, prescribe childcare centers, renal dialysis clinics, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, outpatient diagnostic centers, adult care homes, and traumatic brain injury residential home. T.C.A. § 68-11-202(a)(1).

2. The Commission has the authority to conduct reviews of assisted care living facilities to determine compliance with fire and life safety code regulations promulgated by the Board. T.C.A. § 68-11-202(b)(1)(A).
3. An assisted care living facility (“ACLF”) is 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 at least 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. The ACLF 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 Board 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, The Bridge at Ooltewah, 5901 Snow Hill Road Ooltewah, Tennessee 37363, was licensed by the Board as an ACLF, having been granted

license number 381 on July 31, 2014, which currently has an expiration date of July 31, 2024.

9. On or about June 20, 2023, during a fire drill at the Respondent's facility, a State surveyor observed that seven residents were unable to be evacuated within 13 minutes or less to the designated holding area.
10. During a record review and interview with the Maintenance Director on or about June 20, 2023, the State surveyor discovered that the facility reported fire drills conducted in 2022 and 2023 that did not involve the actual evacuation of the residents to an assembly point as specified in the plan.
11. The Maintenance Director was present with the State surveyor when the deficiencies in Paragraphs 9 and 10 above were identified, and the Executive Director acknowledged these deficiencies during the exit conference on or about June 20, 2023.

III. GROUND 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 Board is authorized.

12. The facts in paragraphs nine (9) and eleven (11) are sufficient to constitute a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Reg. 0720-26-.08(8), Admissions, Discharges, and Transfers, the relevant portion of which reads as follows:

- (8) An ACLF may not retain a resident who cannot evacuate within thirteen (13) minutes unless the ACLF complies with Chapter 19 of the 2006 edition of the NFPA Life Safety Code, and the Institutional Unrestrained Occupancy of the 2006 edition of the International Building Code.

13. The facts in paragraphs ten (10) through eleven (11) are sufficient to constitute a violation of Tenn. Comp. R. and Reg. 0720-26-10(3), Life Safety, the relevant portion of which reads as follows:

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

(a) Fire drills shall be held for each ACLF work shift in each separate ACLF building at least quarterly.

IV. REPRESENTATIONS OF RESPONDENT

14. Respondent understands and admits the allegations, charges, and stipulations in this Order.

15. 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.

16. Respondent agrees that presentation of this Order to the Board and the Board's consideration of it and all matters divulged during that process shall not constitute unfair disclosure such that the Board 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.

17. Respondent agrees that facsimile/PDF copies of this Order, including facsimile/PDF signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as originals.
18. Respondent also agrees that the Board may issue this Order without further process. If the Board rejects this Order for any reason, it will be of no force or effect for either party.
19. 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:

20. Respondent is hereby assessed one (1) Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of **five-thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)**. This CMP is issued for the deficiency cite on June 20, 2023, for failure to evacuate within 13 minutes or less.
21. Respondent is hereby assessed one (1) Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of **three-thousand dollars (\$3,000.00)**. This CMP is issued for deficiency cited on June 20, 2023, for failure to conduct fire drills according to the facility fire plan.
22. Respondent is hereby assessed one (1) collective Civil Monetary Penalty in the amount of **one-thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)**. This CMP is issued for all other deficiencies cited on June 20, 2023, not mentioned already above and listed on the State 2567 finding of deficiencies, hereby incorporated by reference.
23. Payment in the total amount of **nine-thousand dollars (\$9,000.00)** 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 BOARD**

24. 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:



The Bridge at Ooltewah
License No. 381
Signature of Authorized Representative
Respondent



Printed Name of Authorized Representative



Title of Authorized Representative



Jeremy Gourley (BPR # 022812)
Senior Associate General Counsel
Health Facilities Commission
665 Mainstream Dr. 2nd Floor
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Approval by the Board

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 Tennessee Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities at a public meeting of the Board and signed this 7th day of February, 2024.
ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that the agreement of the parties does hereby become the Final Order of the Board.




Chairperson
Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this document has been served upon the Respondent, The Bridge at Ooltewah, c/o Administrator, Caleb Lee, 5901 Snow Hill Road Ooltewah, Tennessee 37363, by delivering same in the United States regular mail and United States certified mail, number **7022 3330 0001 2193 9814**, return receipts requested, with sufficient postage thereon to reach its destination. A copy was sent via electronic mail to: cklee@centurypa.com.

This 7th day of February, 2024



Jeremy Gourley
Senior Associate General Counsel