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NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION

NEWS RELEASE

BUREAU OF HEALTH CARE QUALITY and COMPLIANCE SEEKS LICENSE REVOCATION of LAS VEGAS GROUP HOME

Carson City – The Nevada State Health Division's Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance has notified the owner of a Las Vegas group home that the agency intends to revoke the license of the facility because of serious patient safety issues.

A letter was sent March 26 to Arizona Living Care, 4850 Arizona Ave. in Las Vegas, citing the facts supporting the license revocation. The facility is licensed for nine beds for the care of the elderly, disabled, chronically ill and mentally ill.

A complaint received by the Bureau on March 13 indicated that nine residents from the facility had been relocated to a local hotel and placed in four rooms. Observations by hotel security indicated that two of the rooms were padlocked on the inside so the occupants could not leave.

Residents were sleeping two to a bed, with partially eaten food and unsecured medications in the rooms, which also smelled of urine. The transfer of residents to an inappropriate and unlicensed setting is a violation of Nevada administrative regulations.

The residents were subsequently transferred by Las Vegas police from the hotel to a local hospital.

The actual facility had been surveyed by the Bureau on February 24, when numerous deficiencies were identified, including repeat deficiencies from a 2008 survey. The facility has not submitted a plan to correct the identified deficiencies.

The facility owner has the right to appeal the revocation notice.

If the revocation takes effect, the facility must assist in the placement of any residents to other, appropriate facilities. Details of these relocations must be provided to the Bureau.

The Bureau issues press releases about the facilities it regulates in limited circumstances: where major public health concerns are identified in licensed facilities; in significant cases of repeat violations in licensed facilities; in cases of the suspension or revocation of a license; in cases where patient harm has occurred; and in cases where unlicensed facilities are operating.



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NEVADA STATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance protects the safety and welfare of the public through the promotion and advocacy of quality health care through licensing, regulation, enforcement and education. This mission is accomplished through the Bureau's two sections: Licensure and Certification, which regulates facilities such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, group homes, hospitals, outpatient surgery centers and laboratories; and Radiological Health, which evaluates and responds to hazards from sources of ionizing radiation such as X-ray machines, sources of radiation to treat cancer and mammography units.

For health facilities, more than 900 surveys are conducted each year of Nevada's licensees. More information about the Bureau, including a list of unlicensed facilities, may be found at health.nv.gov.

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