

# DEPARTMENT OF LABOR BUREAU OF LABOR STANDARDS 45 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0045

LAURA A. FORTMAN COMMISSIONER

WAGE & HOUR DIVISION

MICHAEL ROLAND
DIRECTOR

March 8, 2021

Professional Home Care Specialists Attn: Lisa and Randy Michaud 1 Edgemont Drive Presque Isle, ME 04769

RE: Violations of Title 26, Inspection #446113 *Certified Letter*: 7015 1520 0001 0962 8256

Lisa and Randy Michaud

When our Inspector, Steven Spencer, investigated a complaint against your business, the following violations of Maine Labor Law were found:

**26 MRS §621-A Timely and Full Payment of Wages** requires that employees be paid in full, on an established day or date, at regular intervals made known to the employee. The intervals may not exceed 16 days and must include all wages earned to within 8 days of the payment date.

In this case, the employer received a notice of violation dated August 8, 2020 for failing to pay outstanding wages in the amount of \$12,039.68 owed to 79 employees between April 2017 and May 2019. The notice advised the employer to provide proof that the wages have been paid. As of March 8, 2021, the employer has failed to provide proof of payment.

The employer received a prior notice of violation in July 2019 for a prior violation of this statute when they failed to pay on the established pay date in April 2019. The employer was advised at that time that continued noncompliance with Maine's wage & hour laws will result in penalties being assessed.

**26 MRS §626-A PENALTIES** Whoever violates any of the provisions of sections 621-A to 623 or section 626, 628, 629 or 629-B is subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each violation.

\*Each employee is counted as a separate violation.

**≈** 79 violations of §621-A

## The total penalty for the above violation(s) is \$11,850.00.

## Make checks payable to the "Treasurer, State of Maine"

The violations identified above will become a final order within fifteen (15) business days from the day it was received unless you request a penalty discussion or file an appeal (see employer options) within the specified time frame listed above.

# **Employer options (within 15 business days):**

If you intend to correct all violations identified and wish to work with the Wage & Hour Division to possibly reduce the penalty amount, you may request a "<u>Penalty Discussion</u>". This discussion will pertain only to the penalty(s) and not the violation(s). All proposed penalties will be stayed until after the penalty discussion.

Or

You may file a formal appeal of any violation or penalty within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this citation. Please be specific as to what violation(s) or penalty you wish to appeal. If a request for a formal appeal is received, the Director will set a time and date for a "hearing". The Director will serve as the hearing officer or may assign the appeal to the Administrative Hearings Division within the Department of Labor. The hearing will be at the headquarters of the Bureau or at a place mutually agreeable to the parties. All proposed penalties will be stayed until after the formal appeal is heard.

As the employer, you must respond in writing to the Director of the Bureau, at the address above, within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this report stating what option you intend to choose. If no response is received within that time frame you accept all citations and any penalties assessed. The citation will become a final order and payment will be due at that time, made payable to "Treasurer, State of Maine" and mailed to the address at the top of this citation.

We strongly recommend that any correspondence be sent by certified mail. Failure to correct violations may result in additional penalties for each violation that is not corrected.

If you have questions regarding this citation, you may contact the Bureau of Labor Standards, Wage & Hour Division at (207) 623-7900.

# **Dates to remember:**

Respond in writing, to the Director of the Bureau within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this citation indicating what option you choose.

Respectfully,

Scott Cotnoir, Director Wage and Hour Division Inspection # 446113