



## BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 656-5957

**Nathan Deal**  
GOVERNOR

**Bobby D. Cagle, MSW**  
COMMISSIONER

April 14, 2014

**CERTIFIED MAIL # 7013 1090 0000 5589 7962 HAND DELIVERED AND REGULAR MAIL**

Ms. Jennifer Townes  
Family Day Care Home  
5686 Grindstone Drive  
Buford, Georgia 30518

**RE: Notice of Revocation**

Dear Ms. Townes:

A monitoring visit was conducted on March 4, 2014, at your family day care home located at 5886 Grindstone Drive, Buford, Georgia 30518. Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (Bright from the Start) determined that you violated the Consent Agreement entered into with Bright from the Start on June 25, 2013. Specifically, you violated the Consent Agreement when Rule 290-2-3-.04(2) was found out of compliance when seven children were observed in your care. Additionally, Rule 290-2-3-.19 was violated when an infant was placed in a portable crib with a blanket.

An agreement was reached between you and Bright from the Start during a hearing at the Office of State Administrative Hearings (OSAH) on June 25, 2013. In the Consent Agreement you agreed that you would not overcrowd the family day care home, and you would not violate the rules related to safe sleep practices. On March 4, 2014, you were cited for overcrowding and violating the safe sleep practices rules.

This revocation is based upon rule violations that Bright from the Start consider to be a fundamental material breach of the Consent Agreement thereby giving Bright from the Start just cause to issue a Notice of Revocation. The June 25, 2013, Consent Agreement entered into by Bright from the Start and Jennifer Townes Family Day Care Home is marked as Exhibit "A" and incorporated in this Notice by reference.

You are hereby notified that your temporary license to operate a family day care home is hereby revoked. Bright from the Start's legal authority for revoking the license is found in O.C.G.A. Sections 20-1A-1 *et seq.* and the Bright from the Start Rules for Family Day Care Homes, Chapter 290-2-3 of the Official Compilation of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia.

In accordance with O.C.G.A Section 20-1A-10(o), this revocation becomes effective 30 days from receipt of this Notice. The license holder has the right to request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of State Administrative Hearings to appeal this revocation. If the license holder is incorporated, Georgia law may require that the license holder be represented by an attorney at the Office of State Administrative Hearings. The license holder's request for hearing must be made in writing, postmarked within 10 days of receipt of this Notice and sent to:

**Ira Sudman**  
Chief Legal Officer  
Bright from the Start  
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 754, East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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A hearing request stays or suspends the revocation.

If the license holder does not appeal this action within 10 days of receipt of this Notice, the decision to revoke the license will be final and the facility must close within 30 days of receipt of this Notice. Licensure staff will conduct a follow-up visit to verify closure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deidria Bolden".

Deidria Bolden  
Child Care Services Director for Program Operations

Attachments

cc: Kristie Lewis  
Ira Sudman  
Elisabetta Kasfir  
Candy Prince  
Pam Stevens  
Leslie Truman  
Falita Flowers  
Christy McCray  
Jonathan Davis  
Laura Johns  
D'Anna Liber  
Jennifer Taylor  
Elizabeth Holland  
Ashley Shirah  
State File

**BRIGHT FROM THE START: GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CARE AND  
LEARNING**

**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

On April 26, 2013, Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning ("Bright from the Start") issued Jennifer Townes, a family day care home provider, a Notice of Revocation of her registration to operate a family day care home. The revocation of Ms. Townes' registration to operate a family day care home was based upon allegations of noncompliance with Rule 290-2-3-.04(2) (overcrowding) and Rule 290-2-3-.19 (safe sleep practices) of Bright from the Start's Rules for Family Day Care Homes, Chapter 290-2-3 of the Official Compilation of Rules and Regulations for the State of Georgia ("Rules").

On May 2, 2013, Ms. Townes appealed the Notice of Revocation. The matter was scheduled for hearing before Judge Stephanie Howells with the Office of the State Administrative Hearings ("OSAH") on June 24, 2013.

This matter having been discussed by both parties, both parties hereby jointly agree without admitting to any allegations made by the other, to dispose of this dispute without a hearing and be bound by the terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Agreement. Therefore, it is hereby **AGREED THAT:**

1.

Ms. Townes will pay a fine in the amount of \$1,495.00 to Bright from the Start. The fine will be paid in three (3) installments of \$498.33 each. The first payment of \$498.33 will be made by July 1, 2013. The second payment of \$498.33 will be made by August 1, 2013. The third payment of \$498.33 will be made by September 1, 2013.

2.

Bright from the Start will issue Ms. Townes a temporary license, as defined by O.C.G.A. § 20-1A-10(1), for a period of 12 months, commencing upon the execution of this Consent Agreement.

**EXHIBIT "A"**

3.

Ms. Townes shall post the temporary license in a conspicuous place in her family day care home so that the parent of a prospective enrolled child and/or the parent of an already enrolled child may view the temporary license.

4.

Ms. Townes will post a copy of this executed Consent Agreement adjacent to the temporary license.

5.

If Bright from the Start determines that Ms. Townes has violated Rules 290-2-3-.04(2) (overcrowding) and/or 290-2-3-.19 (safe sleep practices) within 24 months of execution of this Consent Agreement, Bright from the Start may, at its discretion, revoke Ms. Townes license to operate a family day care home. If Bright from the Start issues a Notice of Revocation, Ms. Townes will have the right to appeal to the Office of Administrative Hearings.

6.

Upon execution of this Consent Agreement, Bright from the Start will rescind the Notice of Revocation issued to Ms. Townes. Bright from the Start will notify OSAH that the Notice of Revocation has been rescinded and ask that the appeal hearing be dismissed.

7.

Any violation of this Consent Agreement will be considered a fundamental material breach thereby giving Bright from the Start just cause to issue a Notice of Revocation.

8.

The undersigned state that they have carefully read the within and foregoing Consent Agreement and know and understand the contents thereof and that they have executed the same knowingly, voluntarily and willingly.

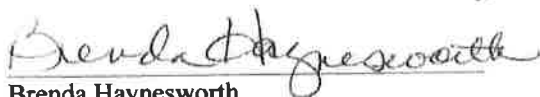
9.

This Consent Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts and by facsimile, each of which shall constitute an original instrument.

10.

In the event that any paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Consent Agreement is construed by any court or administrative body of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, unconstitutional, or otherwise unenforceable, such determination or adjudication shall in no manner affect the remaining paragraphs or portions of this Consent Agreement. The remaining paragraphs or portions in this Consent Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as if such paragraph or portion of this document so determined or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of this Consent Agreement.

AGREED TO THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June, 2013.



Brenda Haynesworth  
Director of Program Operations  
Child Care Services  
Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 754, East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334



Jennifer Townes  
Owner  
5686 Grindstone Dr.  
Buford, GA 30518