



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

February 1, 2023

Karen Ballard
Learning Tree Child Care Center
33901 Curtis
Livonia, MI 48152

RE: License #: DC820264396
RE: SI LOG #: 2022D0937025
The Learning Tree - South
32955 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Dear Ms. Ballard:

This letter is to advise you that the 12/07/2022 corrective action plan you submitted, regarding each rule violation cited in the recently completed Special Investigation Report, is approved.

You can find a copy of this corrective action approval letter and the associated report on our [website](#) under [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#). A description of each type of report and corrective action plans can be found under [Overview of Licensing Reports](#).

Violation cited	Noncompliance observed	Plan to correct	Date to be completed
R 400.8125 (1) Staff; volunteer; requirements.	Child care staff member, Max Trudell failed to provide appropriate care to Child A by handling her inappropriately and using excessive force. Video footage showed this act.	Ms. Jen and Ms. Kaitlyn will do daily checks in rooms at naptime to ensure proper care is being given to children and support teachers at this time.	Ongoing
R 400.8125 (2) Staff; volunteer; requirements.	Max Trudell did not act in a manner that is conducive to the welfare of children when she handled Child A	All staff have been assigned the "From Chaos to Calm" training on strategies to deal with stressful situations in a classroom.	Immediate

	in an inappropriate manner and used excessive force.		
R400.8140 (2)(a) Discipline	Max Trudell repeatedly used excessive force and inappropriately handled Child A. She tossed Child A on the cot, pressed her forearm on Child A's shoulder, held her arm down, and made hard taps on her back and arm. Max was seen squeezing Child A on her head and thigh. Video footage showed these acts.	Ms. Jen and Ms. Kaitlynn will do daily checks in person and video checks to ensure that all forms of punishment are positive and align with The Learning Tree South standards.	Ongoing
R400.8140 (2)(c) Discipline	Max Trudell restricted Child A's movement by holding her down. Max Trudell placed one end of a blanket under a cot, put the blanket over Child A's face then held the other end of the blanket while Child A kicked and fought to get out. Max Trudell placed one end of a blanket under the leg of the table, put the blanket over Child A's face then held the other end of the blanket while Child A fought to get out. Video footage showed these acts.	Ms. Jen and Ms. Kaitlynn will do daily checks in person and video checks to ensure that all forms of punishment are positive and align with The Learning Tree South standards.	Ongoing
MCL 722.115m Child care center, group child care home, or family child care home; requirements for licensure.	Based on our findings, investigation, and review, which includes considering the investigation and findings of MDHHS, the Child Care Licensing Bureau determines that	Because of her actions, Max Trudell was terminated on 10/4/2022.	Immediate

	<p>Max Trudell is not conducive to the welfare of children.</p> <p>Sgt. Jessica Sabbadin of the Livonia Police Department stated in her report that Child A is said to have suffered child abuse in the third degree. Max Trudell is named as the suspect.</p>		
<p>MCL 722.115m Child care center, group child care home, or family child care home; requirements for licensure.</p>	<p>Based on our findings, investigation, and review, which includes considering the investigation and findings of MDHHS, the Child Care Licensing Bureau determines that Max Trudell is not conducive to the welfare of children. Her temperament and actions did not promote the safety and wellbeing of children served.</p> <p>Sgt. Jessica Sabbadin of the Livonia Police Department stated in her report that Child A is said to have suffered child abuse in the third degree. Max Trudell is named as the suspect.</p>	<p>Because of her actions, Max Trudell was terminated on 10/4/2022.</p>	<p>Immediate</p>
<p>R 400.8182 (3)(a) Ratio and group size requirements.</p>	<p>The center was out of ratio during rest time on 10/03/2022. There were 14 preschoolers and 1 child care staff member. There should have been two child care staff members for 14 preschoolers because the ratio for preschool is 1:10.</p>	<p>Teachers have been instructed to call the office for administrative support to maintain ratio at naptime.</p>	<p>Immediate and Ongoing</p>

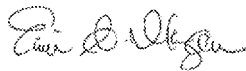
R 400.8188 Sleeping, resting, and supervision.	Max Trudell did not offer Child A an alternative when she did not sleep at rest time. For 4 minutes and 17 seconds, Child A sat and was not offered a book, puzzle, or any quiet activity.	Teachers have been re-trained to offer quiet activities such as puzzles and books to use for children who do not nap at rest time.	Immediate and Ongoing
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It is expected that the corrective action plan will be implemented within the time frames as outlined in your plan.

A follow-up evaluation may be made to verify compliance. Should the corrections not be implemented in the specified time, it may be necessary to reevaluate the status of your license.

The office provides technical assistance to meet the licensing requirements and consultation to improve services. Please contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, you may contact the local office at (313) 456-0380.

Sincerely,



Erica A. Hogan, MA.Ed, Licensing Consultant
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
313 402-7554
HoganE1@michigan.gov

enclosure