



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

Marlon I. Brown, DPA
ACTING DIRECTOR

02/05/2024

Cassie Edmondson
P.O. Box 113,
Eastlake, MI, 49660

License Number: DF510411361
Special Investigation Number: SI-00078112

Dear Cassie Edmondson,

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.1911(1)	A licensee shall ensure appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

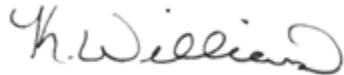
- I interviewed: Licensee, parents, and child care children.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 11/21/2023

During this special investigation:	Yes	No
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

Please review this report for accuracy and contact your consultant, Kortney Williams at 231-463-3177 or williamsk20@michigan.gov. In the event that Kortney Williams is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "K. Williams".

Kortney Williams, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
CHILD CARE LICENSING BUREAU**

Report Type: Special Investigation Report

Date of Report: 1/12/2024

Special Investigation Number	Complaint/Incident Receipt Date
SI-00078112	9/7/2023
Investigation Initiation Date	Report Due Date
10/10/2023	12/05/2023
License Number	Licensee Name(s)
DF510411361	Cassie Edmondson
Capacity	Facility Name
6	Cassie Edmondson
Program Type	Mailing Address
Family Home	P.O. Box 113, Eastlake, MI, 49660
Facility Address	Facility Email Address
410 Canfield, Eastlake, MI, 49626	cledmondson27@gmail.com
Facility Phone Number	License Status:
2312997096	Regular
Original License Issuance Date	License Expiration Date:
10/31/2022	4/29/2025
License Effective Date:	
4/30/2023	

ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Child A had two to three bruises on their back and on a separate occasion bruises around their mouth.	No

METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
10/10/2023	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00078112
10/11/2023	Contact – Phone Call Made Spoke with Cassie regarding face-to-face contact.
10/11/2023	Contact – Face to Face Met Cassie at her mother's home.
10/11/2023	Inspection Completed On-Site Attempted onsite inspection. Cassie appeared to not be home.
10/30/2023	Special Investigation Initiated via Phone Call

	Teams video with Michigan Department of Health and Human Service Worker Jeremy Rothig, Licensee, Cassie Edmondson, and Attorney Mark Quinn. Cassie was interviewed by Jeremy and me.
11/3/2023	Contact – Phone Call Made Spoke with the Child B and C's Mother, Child D's Mother, Child F's Mother and Child E's Mother.
11/6/2023	Contact – Phone Call Made Video chat interview with Child B, Child C and their mother.
11/16/2023	Inspection Completed On-Site On-site inspection attempted, however, there was no answer.
11/21/2023	Inspection Completed On-Site Walk through of the child care home.
01/12/2024	Exit Conference

ALLEGATION: Child A had two to three bruises on their back and on a separate occasion bruises around their mouth.

INVESTIGATION:

Department of Health and Human Service worker, Jeremy Rothig had face to face contact with Child A's Mother and Child A on 10/06/2023. Child A's Mother stated that River has been removed from the daycare and that her last day was Tuesday 10/03/2023. She has had many issues with the daycare such as Child A being forced to eat food, lack of appropriate supervision, and Child A always yelling and/or crying when she arrives to pick her up. She has picked her up from the daycare and she has had bruises on her back, which she is not sure how those were obtained. On another occasion she picked Child A up and she had bruises on her mouth. Cassie Edmondson had sent her a video of her forcing Child A to eat a yogurt pouch. She did not take Child A to the doctors to get her bruises checked out because she was acting like herself and as if nothing was wrong. Child A does not have any of those bruises anymore as it has been weeks to a month since she had them. Child A currently has staples in her head and a cut above her eye glued shut which did not occur while she was at childcare. The DHHS worker observed Child A to have a swollen right eye, which Child A's Mother reported was a new bruise from her falling. Child A did not have any other visible marks or bruises, including on her back. Child A's Mother showed the video of Cassie Edmondson feeding Child A the yogurt pouch. It did not show Cassie Edmondson shoving the pouch in Child A's mouth but putting the pouch near and in her mouth. Child A was crying and turning her head away, refusing the pouch. Child A was observed to be sitting in a bouncer while Cassie Edmondson was attempting to feed her the pouch. Cassie Edmondson's tone appeared to be frustrated with Child A for not eating the pouch.

On 10/11/2023, DHHS worker Jermey Rothig, Manistee County Sheriff's Department Detective Gillispie, and I attempted an unannounced on-site inspection. There was no answer to the knock at the door. I called Cassie Edmondson and she indicated she was around the corner at her mother's home. We met with Cassie Edmondson at her mother's home, however she did not wish to speak with us without her attorney present. She provided us with her attorneys contact information to schedule a time to interview her.

On 10/30/2023, DHHS worker Jermey Rothig, Attorney Mark Quinn, Cassie Edmondson, and I had a video conference to interview Cassie Edmondson. The allegations were reviewed, and Cassie denied them. She explained that she sent the video to show Child A's Mother that she was refusing to eat the yogurt pouch that she was sending with Child A as she had not been eating many solids while in her care. She did not force it in Child A's mouth but tried to get her to eat it. She only tried to offer it to her for the length of the video. No concerns regarding the video were expressed to her. She was not aware of there being two to three lines of bruises on Child A's back. She was not aware of how those bruises were obtained and she did not notice them at any time while Child A was in her care. She does not use physical discipline and utilizes redirection as a form of discipline. A safety plan was discussed with Cassie Edmondson stated that she will not force any child in her care to eat any food that they do not want to eat. She will document any incidences that occur at her child care that involve any type of child injury. She will attempt to feed children alternatives according to their dietary restrictions if they refuse food.

Detective Jacob Bielski provided documentation of his interview with Child A's Mother and Cassie Edmondson. During the interview Child A's Mother stated that Cassie Edmondson was force feeding Child A, causing bruising on the child's back. Detective Bielski reviewed the video of the force feeding and saw nothing of concern with how Cassie Edmondson was feeding the child. He was also able to observe a photograph of bruising on the back of the child which at the time of the interview, was still unknown how the bruising occurred. He noted that the bruising was nothing of concern and could have occurred while the child was sitting in a bounce chair. Child A's Mother is sure it was Cassie Edmondson that caused the bruising. She denied there being any feud between her and Cassie Edmonson. During his interview with Cassie Edmonson, he was provided with a text message between Child A and Cassie Edmonson. In the thread, he was able to note text messages from Child A's Mother threatening Cassie Edmondson that she would call the police if she did not get her deposit of \$250 back. Cassie Edmondson refused to return the deposit due to a breach of contract with the conversation ending. Cassie Edmondson advised Detective Bielski that during her care of Child A she never noted any sign of abuse or injury on her while under her care. He followed up with Child A' Mother regarding the text message feud between her and Cassie Edmondson. She admitted that she forgot to tell him about the deposit not being returned and admitted that she might have threatened Cassie Edmondson stating that she was going to call the police if she did not give her deposit back. Direct Quote from Child A's Mother, "When I get upset, I say things that I shouldn't say." During this follow up interview he also learned that the bruising was observed and photographed on Sept

7th. Child A's Mother did not file a report until Oct 8th. When asked why it took so long for her to file a report with Law Enforcement. She stated that she needed time to think things through and find a different day care provider. It should also be noted that text messaging between them ended on Oct 5th.

Child B and Child C's Mother stated that she has not had any concerns for Cassie Edmondson's care provided at the home. Her children adore Cassie Edmondson. She did not have any discipline concerns and that Cassie Edmondson will talk with the kids about what they had done. She would allow her children to be interviewed. Child B and Child C were interviewed on Video Chat with their mother present. Child B and Child C reported that they feel good about their daycare. The things they do while at childcare include playing inside and outside on the swings, and they run around. They also do crafts. When they get in trouble Cassie Edmondson will make them sit down and she will ask them why they did what they did and then they go back to playing and doing crafts. She doesn't hit them or any of the children at the daycare. She treats everybody the same way. She feeds them their snacks and meals both inside the house and outside. She is the only adult at the child care. Their mother reported that she is aware of the investigation and what is going on at the daycare as Cassie Edmondson informed her about it.

Child D's Mother reported that her child attended child care for one day. It was an emergency situation as she is a piolet, and her mother was unavailable to watch Child D that day. It was either May or June of 2023. Child D was 4 years old at the time and she had no concerns for his time there. He came home saying he had a great time. She did not have any concerns for Cassie's ability to care for her child and denied knowing any inappropriate discipline being used.

Child E's Mother reported that she had concerns with Cassie Edmondson's care provided in regard to sending her child home in a dirty diaper or in the wrong sized diaper. Cassie Edmondson had informed her about an incident where Child E was throwing rocks at her new car, and she did not like it, so she stated that she sprayed him with a water hose. She did not know how to address that and decided that was the last day that her child was in Cassie's care. She is aware of Cassie Edmondson's discipline policy, and she had no concerns of her discipline of the children outside of her spraying her child with a water hose.

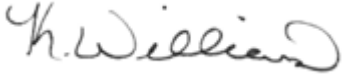

Child F's Mother reported that her child was three to four months old when they attended Cassie's Child Care. She had concerns with Cassie Edmondson's ability to care for the children in her care because she was informed by a someone that Cassie Edmondson would be outside sunbathing while the children were running around outside, and her child was not being observed. She had concerns of Cassie Edmondson feeding child F between two to six ounce bottles every hour despite him being on a strict 4-ounce feed every four hours. Her child would cry when set down, she would walk away and that she believes Cassie Edmondson had done that so often that he was fearful of being left alone. She pulled her child from the child care because she had found another child care.

RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.1911(1)	A licensee shall ensure appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Licensee did provide appropriate care.
CONCLUSION:	Violation Not Established

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend no change to the status of this license.

Approved By:	
	02/05/2024
Kortney Williams Consultant	Date
	02/05/2024
Crecendra Boone Area Manager	Date