



CUMBERLAND COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Comptroller's Investigative Report
March 2, 2017

Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller





STATE OF TENNESSEE

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY

Justin P. Wilson

Comptroller

STATE CAPITOL

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-9034

PHONE (615) 741-2501

March 2, 2017

Mr. Jeff Dodson, Director
Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services
84 Southbend Drive
Crossville, TN 38555

Dear Mr. Dodson:

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, conducted an investigation of selected records of the Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services, and the results are presented herein.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to Governor Bill Haslam, the State Attorney General, the District Attorney General, certain state legislators, and various other interested parties. A copy is available for public inspection in our office and may be viewed at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin P. Wilson".

Justin P. Wilson
Comptroller of the Treasury

JPW/RAD

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, investigated allegations of malfeasance related to Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services.

INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS

- Former supervisor misappropriated at least 79 single dose vials of controlled substances for his own use

During the period January 2015 through August 2016, former Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services [EMS] supervisor Randy Davidson diverted at least 79 single dose vials of the opioid pain relievers (narcotics) fentanyl and morphine for his personal use. Mr. Davidson falsified over 50 controlled substance administration documents to make it appear that these drugs had been used legitimately by other paramedics. In reviewing the reports prepared by the paramedics, however, investigators determined that the drugs had not been administered to patients. Mr. Davidson acknowledged to investigators that he had taken the controlled substances for his own use. Randy Davidson resigned on August 15, 2016. [Refer to exhibits below.]

Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services

Controlled Substance Administration Form

Medication Box Number 460 Run Number _____ Protocol used N/V

Control Substance Administered 20mg/2mL Concentration 4mg/2mL Dose Given 4mg

What was done with the remaining medication 0 meds remaining

Medication given via standing order Yes No

Fentanyl dosage fraudulently added by former supervisor to conceal narcotics theft.

Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services

Controlled Substance Administration Form

Medication Box Number 471 Run Number S2010 Protocol used NAUSEA/Vomiting/CI

Control Substance Administered Phenergan/Morphine Concentration 25mg/mL Dose Given 50mg

What was done with the remaining medication None Remaining

Medication given via standing order Yes No

Morphine dosage fraudulently added by former supervisor to conceal narcotics theft.

Misappropriated Drug	Vials
Fentanyl	36
Morphine	<u>43</u>
Total Misappropriated Vials	<u><u>79</u></u>

These matters were referred to the local district attorney general. On February 27, 2017, the Cumberland County Grand Jury indicted former EMS supervisor Randy Davidson on two counts of Theft under \$1,000, one count of Official Misconduct, and one count of Forgery.

Additional Issues

This scheme was first identified by officials of Cumberland County Emergency Medical Services. The scheme had been ongoing and undetected, however, for at least 20 months. Our investigation revealed deficiencies in drug distribution processes that contributed to the former supervisor's ability to perpetrate the misappropriation without prompt and timely detection. These process deficiencies included:

- In many instances, officials did not adequately review the primary document (the Controlled Substance Administration form) supervisors used for obtaining the pain relievers in question. The current form requires the signatures of the paramedic that administered the drug, a witness, and a supervisor. Some of the forms used to misappropriate narcotics included only the supervisor's signature.
- Supervisors were able to obtain replacement controlled substances from inventory without proof that the drugs being replaced had been used. The supervisors were not required to turn in the empty vials of the drugs as evidence that the drugs had actually been administered.
- EMS officials did not maintain a perpetual inventory of controlled substances allowing officials to monitor, in real time, the use rate of all drugs in stock.

EMS officials have indicated they have corrected or intend to correct these deficiencies.