GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
ACTING DIRECTOR

Loretta Hardman
Farwell Outdoor Adventure Camp
115 Erskine
Detroit, MI 48201

November 16, 2023

RE: License #: CD820409127
Investigation #: 2023C0434033
Farwell Outdoor Adventure Camp

Dear Ms. Hardman:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan is required. The corrective action plan is due 15 days from the date of this letter and must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

If you desire technical assistance in addressing these issues, please feel free to contact me. In any event, the corrective action plan is due within 15 days. Failure to submit an acceptable corrective action plan will result in disciplinary action.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Grand Rapids licensing unit at (616) 356-0100.

Sincerely,

James VandenHeuvel

James P. VandenHeuvel, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Unit 13, 7th Floor
350 Ottawa, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 901-3730

enclosure

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	CD820409127
Investigation #:	2023C0434033
Complaint Receipt Date:	09/21/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	09/25/2023
Report Due Date:	11/20/2023
Licensee Name:	Detroit Parks and Recreation
Licensee Address:	115 Erskine Detroit, MI 48201
Licensee Telephone #:	(313) 320-1155
Administrator:	Loretta Hardman
Licensee Designee:	Tracey Jackson
Name of Facility:	Farwell Outdoor Adventure Camp
Facility Address:	2711 E. Outer Drive Detroit, MI 48209
Facility Telephone #:	(313) 320-1155
Original Issuance Date:	07/08/2021
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	01/06/2022
Expiration Date:	01/05/2024
Capacity:	30
Program Type:	CHILD CAMP - DAY

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
The camp did not determine suitability of volunteers.	Yes
Additional Findings	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

09/21/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023C0434033
09/25/2023	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone
09/25/2023	Contact - Document Sent
09/27/2023	Contact - Telephone call received.
09/27/2023	Contact - Document Received
09/28/2023	Contact - Telephone call received.
10/04/2023	Contact - Document Received
10/06/2023	Inspection Completed On-site
10/26/2023	Contact - Face to Face
11/02/2023	Contact - Document Received
11/03/2023	Contact - Face to Face
11/15/2023	Inspection Completed- BCAL in Sub Compliance
11/16/2023	Corrective Action Plan required and due by December 1, 2023
11/16/2023	Exit Conference by telephone with Ms. Hardman, Ms. Wright, and Ms. Jackson

ALLEGATION:

The camp did not determine suitability of volunteers.

INVESTIGATION:

On 9/21/23, the department received an online compliant. The complaint read in part "*I am writing this letter as a formal complaint regarding sexual grooming behavior and lack of supervision of the staff and contracted employees of Farwell Summer Camp. I was informed on July 25, 2023 that a contracted tennis coach made inappropriate advances towards my 12 year old daughter during a scheduled lesson*."

On 9/25/23, I contacted Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Centralized Intake to report the allegations.

On 9/27/23, I received notice from MDHHS Maltreatment in Care (MIC) Intake Coordinator Stephanie Flatt that the case was being assigned for investigation. She stated the investigator will be Orlando Fortunato and I received the intake log #104899174.

On 9/27/23, I interviewed Relative A1 by telephone. Relative A1 stated her daughter was enrolled at the day camp this past summer and was participating in the tennis program. One of the tennis coaches had allegedly touched Camper A's hip while moving her in line. Relative A1 stated she didn't think much of it at the time it was reported. However, a few weeks later Camper A reported to Relative A1 additional concerns about the tennis coach specifically touching a water bottle in the back pocket of Camper A and talking to siblings about her whereabouts when Camper A was not at the camp. Relative A1 stated it was reported to the camp administration and the Detroit Parks and Recreation staff. It was her belief that the City Civil Rights Department was investigating the reported concerns. Relative A1 stated the tennis coach was removed from the program after the complaint but apparently came back to the camp site and was seen by Camper A.

On 9/27/23, I received a call from CPS-MIC worker Orlando Fortunato. He stated he would need to schedule a forensic interview for Camper A and conduct a well-being check within 24 hours.

On 10/6/23, I conducted an onsite inspection along with Mr. Fortunato at Farwell Recreation Center. I interviewed center supervisor Lorretta Hardman, director Dalvin Hawthorne, and operations director Tracey Jackson.

Ms. Hardman stated she is responsible for the programs and activities that occur at the center. Ms. Hardman stated Delvin Hawthorne was the day camp director during summer 2023. Ms. Hardman stated the day camp program was for children between the ages of 6-12 years of age during the weeks of 6/26-8/18/23. She stated camp staff were trained from 6/12-6/23. Ms. Hardman stated the camp contracts with vendors to provide specialized activities such as tennis, financial literacy, dance, karate, sign language, sewing, and stem activities. Ms. Hardman stated the vendors are not trained by Detroit Parks and Recreation but are

supervised by camp staff. Ms. Hardman stated she received notice from Mr. Hawthorne on 7/17 that a tennis coach may have inappropriately touched a camper. Ms. Hardman stated she removed the coach from the program and notified Ms. Jackson.

I interviewed camp director Dalvin Hawthorne. Mr. Hawthorne stated on the day of the incident, Joshua Goodwin reported to him Volunteer #1 touched Camper A inappropriately. Mr. Hawthorne stated he reported the allegation to his supervisor Ms. Hardman. He stated the campers are supervised by trained counselors.

I interviewed operations director Tracey Jackson. Ms. Jackson stated Volunteer #1 was a tennis coach with a local club who was a program vendor at the camp. Ms. Jackson stated the program vendors were responsible to conduct their volunteer background checks as required by the agreed contract between the Detroit Parks and Recreation and the club. She stated at no-time were the campers left alone without supervision from camp staff. Ms. Jackson mistakenly provided two forms that she thought was a background check for Volunteer #1. However, I reviewed the forms. One form read " *US Center for Safesport Hereby Recognizes [Volunteer #1] for the successful completion of Refresher 1: recognizing and reporting misconduct" completed 7/2/23.* The second form read *"You are Safe Play Approved*". This form did not have identifying information of Volunteer #1. Ms. Jackson stated within the United States Tennis Association (USTA) coaches are required to be "approved."

I reviewed the *USTA Safe Play approved coach* website. The website read "*USTA is committed to promoting safe and respectful environment for athletes to thrive in. Safe Play is a comprehensive athlete safety program consisting of education, screening, reporting tools, and policies for appropriate conduct in tennis. The USTA works with the U.S. Center for Safesport."* I searched the status of Volunteer #1 on the website and found he is "Approved". Approval means the tennis coach has read and acknowledge the *USTA Safe Play policy* and completed education from the *U.S. Center for Safesport* and completed the background check application. The USTA utilizes an independent third-party National Center for Safety Initiatives to conduct criminal background screens.

On 10/26/23, I observed the forensic interview of Camper A with Mr. Fortunato. Camper A stated the tennis coach "touched me inappropriately". Camper A stated he touched me one time on my hip to "move me over". Camper A stated at another date the coach "touched my butt". Camper A stated while playing tennis, he touched my water bottle in my back pocket. She stated she reported the incident to her camp counselor Josh. When asked if others were present, Camper A stated the other staff and cadets were present.

On 11/2/23, I reviewed interview statement from Volunteer #1 provided by Mr. Fortunato. Mr. Fortunato wrote he had contact with Volunteer #1 on 10/11/23. Volunteer #1 denied any CPS or criminal history. Volunteer #1 stated he was

informed by the lead instructor that he inappropriately touched Camper A. Volunteer #1 denied touching a water bottle in her pocket. Volunteer #1 reported he had 10 kids in their group and the only contact he had with them was changing their grip on their rackets. Volunteer #1 denied touching anyone inappropriately and that he was never alone with any campers.

I reviewed the interview from camp counselor Joshua Goodwin as written by Mr. Fortunato. Mr. Goodwin observed Volunteer #1 placing all the children in position to play tennis. Mr. Goodwin reported he did not observe anything inappropriate regarding the way Volunteer #1 was placing the children in position to play tennis. Mr. Goodwin reported he was the assigned observer for the group.

I reviewed the interview from tennis coach Lisa Wyre as written by Mr. Fortunato. Ms. Wyre denied observing any children inappropriately touched. She stated there were 30 campers divided into three groups of 10. Ms. Wyre reported she was two courts away from Volunteer #1. Ms. Wrye reported that there was staff assigned to each group.

On 11/2/23, I reviewed the Detroit Police Department report #231024-0116. The report read the case status was “active” as of 10/24/23.

On 11/3/23, I reviewed the provider agreement for the vendor club. The provider agreement includes lead instructor information, lead instructor references, class outline, and provider terms and conditions. The provider agreement was signed on 7/27/23 by the parties (the vendor club and Detroit Parks and Recreation). The provider terms include a section titled “Background Checks”. The agreement read “*The Instructor and any of the instructor’s support staff, volunteers, or team members who will be on-site at a City of Detroit Parks and Recreation will need to complete and receive a background check clearance from the State of Michigan prior to the instructor’s class beginning. The background check form is included in the appendix of this form.”* The background check form attached was titled “Request for Central Registry Clearance Camp Staff/Volunteer 21 years of age or older.” The request form was completed and signed by the lead instructor for the vendor club and dated 7/27/23. There were no additional background check forms provided.

On 11/3/23, I participated in the CPS-MIC pre-disposition conference. Mr. Fortunato stated CPS-MIC will be closing the case unsubstantiated with no preponderance of evidence to determine abuse or neglect.

APPLICABLE RULE	
MCL 722.119	**Child care organization: policy regarding supervision of volunteers;**

	(4) Each child care organization shall establish and maintain a policy regarding supervision of volunteers including volunteers who are parents of a child receiving care at the child care organization.
ANALYSIS:	The camp has a general policy that background checks will be completed. Review of the vendor club agreement with the licensee reveals that vendor coaches will have a central registry completed. The camp could not provide evidence of any central registry clearances having been completed consistent with their policy. Therefore, this rule is not in compliance.
CONCLUSION:	**VIOLATION ESTABLISHED**

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

I reviewed the *Day Camp Policies and Procedures Manual for Staff*. The manual includes the child protection plan within the emergency procedures section of the manual. The plan read "*Action to be taken to report child abuse or neglect: The child protection law requires mandated reporters who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect to make an immediate oral report to MDHHS-Centralized Intake (855-444-3911), followed by a written report within 72 hours. 1. Camp director or designated official shall make an oral report immediately by calling Centralized Intake (855-444-3911).*"

Ms. Jackson stated the incident was reported to Detroit Civil Rights office for investigation. She stated they did not report the incident to centralized intake.

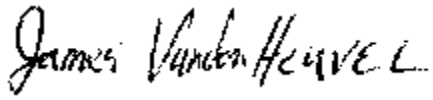
R 400.11115	**Child and adult protection plan.**
	(1) A camp shall develop and follow a written plan to assure compliance with 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 and known as the child protection law, and sections 11 to 11f and 14 of 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.11 to 400.11f and 400.14, and known as the adult protection law.
For reference:	**(2) The plan shall cover all of the following areas:** **(a) Reporting responsibilities.** **(b) Confidentiality.** **(c) Separation of an alleged perpetrator from campers until the incident is resolved, until the threat is removed, or as long as necessary to protect the safety and welfare of the campers.**

ANALYSIS:	The camp has a written policy to report suspected abuse or neglect to Centralized Intake but did not follow their plan. The camp did not comply with this rule.
CONCLUSION:	**VIOLATION ESTABLISHED**

On 11/16/23, I conducted an exit conference by telephone with Ms. Hardman, Ms. Wright, and Ms. Jackson. I reviewed the findings of this report. Ms. Jackson stated she understood the findings of the report and will be providing a written corrective action plan.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

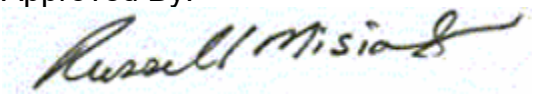
Upon submission of an acceptable written corrective action plan, I recommend no change in license status.



11/16/23

James P. VandenHeuvel Date
Licensing Consultant

Approved By:



11/16/23

Russell B. Misiak Date
Area Manager