



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE**

**COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

DATE OF REPORT
7/12/2022

DVN
001790147

FACILITY NAME

ANGEL HAVEN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS

598 SE COUNTY ROAD DD STE 6

CITY

WARRENSBURG

ZIP CODE

64093-8406

PHONE NUMBER

(660) 429-5800

COUNTY

JOHNSON

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GREER, JOHN

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3.

Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7.

Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On July 12, 2022, the Office of Childhood received an allegation that Caregiver Linda Regelski "bopped" Child A (4-years-old) in the mouth, after Child A spit on her. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) JD Greer, has found the allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3. which states, "Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7. which states, "Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited."

On July 25, 2022, Compliance Inspector (CI) JD Greer interviewed Director Courtney Owens who stated on July 12, 2022, at approximately 12:00 p.m. Ms. Owens was preparing lunch for the facility. Caregiver Linda Regelski yelled into the kitchen and said, "I need to speak with you." Ms. Owens went into the classroom. Ms. Regelski stated I "bopped" Child A in the mouth. Ms. Regelski stated, "I knew it was wrong, Child A spit at me and I bopped him in the mouth."

On July 25, 2022, CI Greer reviewed video footage of the incident with Director Courtney Owens and observed the video footage began at approximately 12:05 p.m. on July 12, 2022. Caregiver Linda Regelski is wearing a red t-shirt, black shorts, and sandals. Child A is wearing black shorts and a patterned shirt that is white with dark coloring. Child A is seen talking to Ms. Regelski as Ms. Regelski helps another child. Child A walks across the room and stands next to a different child. Ms. Regelski walks over to Child A and grabs him forcefully by the arm and spins him around. Child A looks up and spits in Ms. Regelski's face. Ms. Regelski swats at Child A's face with an open right hand. Child A drops down to the ground. Ms. Regelski walks toward the classroom door.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding appropriate discipline. Specifically, 5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3. which states, "Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions." AND 5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7. which states, "Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking,

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

3/3/2023

slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited." The facility must provide the Office of Childhood- Childcare Compliance with a statement, signed by all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

2/2/2023

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

NURNBERG, TONY A