



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

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
2/8/2023

DVN
002916812

FACILITY NAME

LIL SMARTIES LEARNING CENTER, INC

FACILITY ADDRESS

7330 OLIVE BLVD

CITY

ST LOUIS

ZIP CODE

63130-1701

PHONE NUMBER

(314) 860-5120

COUNTY

ST LOUIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

HONEA, MICHELLE J

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-600.020 (1)

Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a licensed , regulated, or registered child care facility not exempted by section 210.1080.13, RSMo, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(O)

Child care staff members with disqualifying background screenings results as defined in 5 CSR 25-600.040 Background Screening Findings, shall be prohibited from being present on the premises of the facility.

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(R)

Any person present at the facility during the hours in which child care is provided shall not present a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the children.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On February 8, 2023, the Office of Childhood (OOC) received an allegation that: A parent is concerned that staff member, Daryl Jones is working at the facility and is a convicted felon and pedophile. After conducting an investigation, Compliance Inspector (CI) Michelle Honea has found this allegation to be substantiated based on the following evidence:

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(R), which states: "Any person present at the facility during the hours in which child care is provided shall not present a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the children."

AND

5 CSR 25-500.102(1)(O), which states: "Child care staff members with disqualifying background screenings results as defined in 5 CSR 25-600.040 Background Screening Findings, shall be prohibited from being present on the premises of the facility."

AND

5 CSR 25-600.020 (1), which states: "Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a licensed , regulated, or registered child care facility not exempted by section 210.1080.13, RSMo, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department ."

Daryl Jones was seen coming out of the kitchen at the facility by CI Katie Sims on December 07, 2022 during a Compliance Monitoring Inspection. On February 10, 2023 and February 16, 2023 CI Honea conducted a phone interview with assistant director Persaphanie Turner. Ms. Turner stated that Daryl Jones is using the facility for meals and the restroom while doing construction work but is not around the children. A background check was not completed on Daryl Jones until CI Honea conducted a phone interview with assistant director Persaphanie Turner on February 10, 2023.

On February 16, 2023, CI Michelle Honea observed a Family Care Safety Registry dated February 10, 2023 which had several felony convictions on Daryl Jones. CI Honea also observed an ineligible letter dated February 16, 2023 from the Office of Childhood which stated that "Based on eligibility standards, Daryl Jones is ineligible to be employed or present at a licensed, regulated, or registered child care facility." Therefore Daryl Jones is prohibited from being employed or present at Lil Smarties Learning Center, Inc.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE The facility shall submit a signed statement to the Office of Childhood acknowledging that staff Daryl Jones is no longer present or employed at the facility.		COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 3/7/2023
CORRECTIVE MEASURE The facility shall ensure that all employees have a comprehensive background screening completed prior to a person's employment and/or presence within the child care facility. The comprehensive background screening must include verification of fingerprinting of the individual and a requested screening via the Family Care Safety Registry. The facility shall submit a signed statement agreeing to ensure this requirement is followed. A copy of the signed statement shall be provided to the Office of Childhood.		COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 8/17/2023
DISPOSITION SUBSTANTIATED		DISPOSITION DATE 4/6/2023	
APPROVING SUPERVISOR CHRISCO, MARLA L			