

Iowa Department of Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT

<b>Name of Center:</b> Lil Scholars Too	<b>Enrollment:</b> 83	<b>License ID:</b> 47066
<b>Street:</b> 1300 8th St Suite #2	<b>City:</b> West Des Moines	<b>IA Zip Code:</b> 50265
<b>County:</b> Polk		
<b>Mailing Address:</b> 1300 8th St Suite #2		
<b>Mailing City:</b> West Des Moines	<b>IA Zip Code:</b> 50265	
<b>Director's Name:</b> Marci Johnston	<b>Center Phone Number:</b> 515-223-0008	
<b>On-Site Supervisors:</b> Kelly Johnson, Rhonda Leslie	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> lilscholarstoo@gmail.com	

**Date of Complaint:** 03-30-2017 **Date of Visit:** 03-31-2017

Scheduled  Unannounced  NA

Non-Compliance with Regulations Found  Compliance with Regulations Found  NA

**RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE**

**NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended**

**PROVISIONAL license from** \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUSPENSION of License**

**REVOCAION of License**

**Complaint Details:**

Did this complaint result in a serious injury?  Yes  No

Did this complaint result in a death to a child?  Yes  No

**Summary of Complaint:**

There were concerns that a staff member, A. H., was intoxicated while caring for children at this daycare center. Her blood alcohol level was .370 and she was subsequently arrested for public intoxication and child endangerment charges.

**Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:**

109.10(16)a The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.

**Inspection Findings:**

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I talked to DHS Brown about this situation on 3/31/17. We met at the daycare center and met with assistance directors Kelly Johnson and Rhonda Leslie. Kelly said A.H. started with the daycare, the downtown center, in April 2016 then moved to this location in May 2016. There haven't been in related concerns prior to this incident. On 3/23/17, Rhonda said she contact with A.H. around 12:30 pm as she told her to room 201, which is a two year old room, to cover break for the staff. Rhonda didn't notice any concerns with A.H. at that time.

Kelly checked the staff time clock and A.H. clocked out for break at 1:21 pm and clocked back in at 1:52. pm. B.M., staff in room 201 clocked out from 12:29 pm - 1:29 pm and K.F. was clocked out from 12:46 pm - 1:17 pm.

Rhonda said she noted around 3:30 pm that A.H. was still sitting in the break room. She informed Kelly about this and Kelly went into the break room and spoke with A.H. Kelly noticed A.H. had slurred speech and she thought A.H. may have something medically wrong. Suzie Douglas, the centers' HR director, was on her way to this center so Kelly went back into her office and waited for Suzie to arrive. Suzie went into the break room to get A.H. and at that time A.H. was coming out of the break room carrying a laundry basket. A.H. was staggering. Suzie brought A.H. into the office and the police were contacted.

Marci Johnston, the owner of this center, joined our meeting at this time. Marci said she had been notified of the situation by phone as she has not been able to be present at work due to some medical issues for some time. She asked A.H. if she needed medical attention, if she was diabetic. A.H. said she was diabetic. Suzie had asked her if she had been drinking and A.H. denied this. The police arrived and asked A.H. to to complete field testing which she was assumed to have failed. She denied drinking alcohol but did complete a breathalyzer test and it was reportedly .307. A.H. then admitted to drinking alcohol and said she had brought gin from home. Marci assumed she had started drinking in the break room and hadn't been in the classroom with the children. A.H. said she didn't have anymore alcohol but the police did take the purple water bottle from her.

B.M., a staff member, came into the office. He had contact with A.H. when she came into the classroom so he could go on break and he noticed no concerns at that time. He went into the break room when he returned from lunch approximately one hour later. A.H. was in the break room at that time with L.H., another staff member. He noticed her speech was slurred and was she was saying didn't made sense in the context of the conversation. He didn't think much about it but saw her later getting arrested.

K.F., a staff member, was the next person we spoke with. She had contact with A.H. that day when she came in to relieve B.M. for lunch. She and A.H. were in different areas of the room, rubbing children's backs. They only discussed which children were still awake and then A.H. left the room. A.H. had her water bottle when she came into the classroom and she took it when she left.

L.H. was the next person we spoke with. She spoke with A.H. on that date in the break room. A.H. came into the break room when she was there. She noticed A.H. dropped the lid to her water bottle and she took the lid off to put ice in the bottle. She didn't recall seeing if she had put anything else in the bottle. B.M. came into the break room and he made a comment to A.H. about wearing flip flops that day as it was cold. A.H. answered but rambled on and the answer wasn't related to the question. Her speech seemed impaired. L.H. said something to the staff in her classroom, that A.H.'s behavior seemed "off".

Kelly checked and L.H.'s break was from 1:07 pm - 1:42 pm.

Kelly and Marci stated A.H. was terminated from employment on the day of the incident and she hasn't been at the daycare since.

#### **Special Notes and Action Required:**

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A decision was made by administration to contact the police once they had concerns with A.H.'s behavior. They contacted DHS licensing to notify Supervisor Todd Savage and Melinda Larson about the situation. They contacted parents to notify them about the situation.

There are no additional actions required at this time.

**Consultant's Signature:**

Melinda Larson

**Date:**

05-09-2017