



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

March 20, 2020

Gay Simpson
1424 Richardson
Port Huron, MI 48060

RE: License #: DF740395158
Investigation #: 2020D0351008
Simpson Gay

Dear Ms. Simpson:

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

R400.911 Care; supervision; children

R400.913 Discipline; child handling

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

- I interviewed the person who made the complaint and licensee
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 02/03/20.

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

R 400.1911 Care; supervision; children.

R400.913 (2) Discipline; child handling

R400.913 (3) (b) Discipline; child handling

I recommend issuance of a 1st provisional license. If you accept the provisional license, you must sign and return the enclosed waiver form. If you do not accept the provisional license, you must notify this office in writing and an administrative hearing will be scheduled. Even if you don't accept the provisional license, you must still send us an acceptable corrective action plan.



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Due to the violations, you must send us a corrective action plan by 04/10/2020. You can use our [corrective action plan](#) form or create your own.

If you need help writing the corrective action plan, please contact me. If you do not send a corrective action plan, you may face disciplinary action. The corrective action plan 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.

During this special investigation:	Yes	No
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

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 local office at (810) 787-7031.

Sincerely,

Christine Noel

Christine Noel, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
4809 Clio Road
Flint, MI 48504
(586) 256-1968

Enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DF740395158
Investigation #:	2020D0351008
Complaint Receipt Date:	01/30/2020
Investigation Initiation Date:	01/31/2020
Report Due Date:	03/30/2020
Licensee Name:	Gay Simpson
Licensee Address:	1424 Richardson Port Huron, MI 48060
Licensee Telephone #:	(810) 956-0682
Administrator:	N/A
Licensee Designee:	N/A
Name of Facility:	Simpson Gay
Facility Address:	1424 Richardson Street Port Huron, MI 48060
Facility Telephone #:	(810) 956-0682
Original Issuance Date:	12/20/2018
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	06/20/2019
Expiration Date:	06/19/2021
Capacity:	6
Program Type:	CHILD CARE FAMILY HOME (CAPACITY 1-6)

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
On 01/29/20, Ms. Simpson admitted that she put dish soap on her finger and placed her finger in Child A (9-year-old, male) and Child B's (6-year-old, male) mouths because they were swearing.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

01/30/2020	Special Investigation Intake 2020D0351008
01/31/2020	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone with Children A, B, and C's Mother
01/31/2020	Contact - Telephone call made To officer Donald Ochadleus with the Port Huron Police Department, message left
02/03/2020	Inspection Completed On-site from 11:45 AM to 12:30 PM interviewed Licensee, Gay Simpson
03/18/2020	Contact - Telephone call made to Child D's Mother-voice mail not set up and message could not be left
03/18/2020	Contact - Telephone call made to Child E's Father, message left
03/18/2020	Contact - Telephone call made to Child F's Mother, message left
03/18/2020	Exit Conference Exit conference with Ms. Simpson

ALLEGATION: On 01/29/20, Ms. Simpson admitted that she put dish soap on her finger and placed her finger in Child A (9-year-old, male) and Child B's (6-year-old, male) mouths because they were swearing.

INVESTIGATION: On 01/31/2020 I spoke with Child A, B, and C's Mother who stated that her children attended child care at Ms. Simpson's twice. The first was 01/27/2020 and the second was on 01/29/2020. She stated that when she picked up Child A and B on 01/29/2020, Ms. Simpson told her that the children were "bad" and that she "put soap in their mouths because they said some swear words".

Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that she was absolutely shocked and angry and asked Ms. Simpson why she would do that. She stated that Ms. Simpson then wanted to clarify and stated that she "put the soap on her own finger and then into Child A and B's mouth". Child A, B, and C's Mother told Ms. Simpson that she does not physically discipline her children or put things in their mouths. Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that Ms. Simpson looked "shocked" at her response and asked her if it was "okay to put them in the corner". Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that her third child, Child C (5-year-old, male) reportedly did not have soap put in his mouth.

Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that she asked Child A and B about the soap and they confirmed that Ms. Simpson put soap in their mouths. Child A and B said that Ms. Simpson would not let them leave until they swallowed it. Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that her children said that Ms. Simpson was upset and yelling at everyone. Child A, B, and C's Mother stated that she left Ms. Simpson's home and filed a police report with Port Huron Police Department. Child A, B, and C's Mother shared that her children would not be returning to Ms. Simpson's for child care. I contacted Port Huron Police Department on 01/31/2020 and left a message for officer Donald Ochadleus. A return call was not received.

I made an unannounced, on site inspection to Ms. Simpson's home on 02/03/2020. I arrived at 11:45 AM and Ms. Simpson was present with Child D (3-year-old, male), Child E (2-year-old, male), and Child F (4-year-old, male). Ms. Simpson stated that she was anticipating my visit. Ms. Simpson stated that she had a new family enroll with Child A, B, and C and that on their second day in her home, which was 01/29/2020, Child A and Child B were swearing. Ms. Simpson indicated that she explained to them that they could not do that and later on, while she was in the kitchen doing dishes, she heard them swear again. It was at that time that she touched her finger to the soap bottle and touched their lips with the soap and said "bad words need to be washed out because your mouth is dirty with bad words".

As I asked for clarification, Ms. Simpson then stated that the children were standing next to her while she was doing dishes, so she did not know if she had gotten any soap in their mouth. She stated that she gave Child A and B a drink of water because she did not know if any bubbles got in their mouth. Ms. Simpson denied that she put the soap in their mouth. Ms. Simpson told Child A, B, and C's Mother what happened when she came to pick them up. She told Child A, B, and C's Mother that they had sworn and what she had told them about washing their mouth out due to the bad words. Ms. Simpson stated that Child A, B, and C's Mother told

her she could not do that because she was “poisoning them” and that she allows Child A and B to swear at home.

Ms. Simpson said she told Child A, B, and C’s Mother that is fine if she allows swearing at her home, but at the child care she does not allow it.

I asked Ms. Simpson what Child A and B’s reaction was, and she stated that they just looked at her and then went back to playing. She stated that Child A had “a bit of an attitude” and if he is allowed to swear at home, she recognizes how that would have been confusing to him. Ms. Simpson acknowledged that Child A, B, and C’s Mother was very upset. Ms. Simpson denied telling Child A, B, and C’s Mother that she put her finger in their mouths but did tell her that she put her finger on their lips. Ms. Simpson also denies that she made the children swallow the soap and that all she made them swallow was water. Ms. Simpson stated that she did not have any additional conversations with Child A, B, and C’s Mother. She gathered that children’s things and left. Ms. Simpson stated that she thought they “were done with that”, and the situation was diffused but Child A, B and C never came back. Ms. Simpson stated that Child A, B, and C’s Mother gave no indication that they would not be coming back. Ms. Simpson stated that she was surprised when Officer Ochadleus knocked on her door 2 ½ hours after they left. Ms. Simpson stated that she explained the events to Officer Ochadleus who told her “people don’t like that”.

Ms. Simpson stated that she did write down the events to document and provided me with a copy. The statement reads:

“01/29/2020: 11:23 AM. Child A was playing with blocks with the other children and as he was playing he swore saying the word “ass”. I had him come to me where I was doing dishes. I told him that I don’t allow bad words. I touched my soap bottle on the tip and touched his tongue and told him next time it happens he heeds his mouth washed because they are dirty words. I gave him a drink to make sure if there was soap on my finger that it didn’t stay in his mouth”.

“01/29/2020: 11:56 AM. A while ago, I had a problem with Child A and now his younger brother, Child B has done the same, he swore but said “God Damn” even though I made it clear it is unacceptable. I was finishing up my dishes so he came out to me and I did the same as I had to Child A, touched the bottle, then his tongue, then gave him a drink. When Child A, B, and C’s Mother came to get her kids at 12:04 PM, I told her what happened. She told me to not do that and that she allows them to swear at home. I told her that’s fine its her house, but it isn’t fine here and she needs to make them understand that they need to follow rules or they will have to write lines for now on and if they persist, she....The page then cut off and that thought was not finished.

“01/29/2020: 2:23 PM. An office came to talk to me about what happened and told me that Child A and B’s Mother was upset with how I handled the problem of the boys swearing. I told him what happened, and he told me that possibility a

P.S worker may come to talk about it and that the licensing department will be informed”.

I asked Ms. Simpson if she had used this method of discipline prior and she denied doing so with child care children, but that she had done so with her own children. Ms. Simpson stated that the swearing caught her of guard, and she does not know why she reacted that way and “has kicked herself and asked herself why she handled it that way”. Ms. Simpson stated that “the minute she did that, she knew it was wrong” and that he has not experienced a child swearing like that before. I asked Ms. Simpson what a more appropriate method of discipline would have been, and she stated she could have utilized a time out or had Child A and B write lines/sentences, which is what she typically uses as methods of discipline with child care children.

Ms. Simpson reported that she had three other children enrolled, which were Child D, Child E, and Child F. On 03/18/2020 I attempted to contact Child D’s Mother; however, a voice mail was not set up and a message could not be left. I also left messages for Child E’s Mother and Child F’s Mother, however return calls were not received.

On 03/20/20, I spoke with Ms. Simpson to conduct her exit conference which reviews the findings of the investigation. Ms. Simpson stated that she understood the violations and ultimate recommendation. Ms. Simpson added that the worst part was that she had received a call from Officer Ochadleus who told he that he had to close his case because Child A, B, and C’s Mother never got back with him. Ms. Simpson commented that none of this had to happen if she was not going to follow through with her concerns and police report.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1911	Care; supervision; children.
	(1) A licensee shall ensure appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Simpson did not provide appropriate care to Child A and B when she admitted to touching a soap bottle, then touching their tongue because they used swear words.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913	Discipline; child handling.
	(2) Developmentally appropriate positive methods of discipline that encourage self-control,

	self-direction, self-esteem, and cooperation must be used.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Simpson did not demonstrate an appropriate method of discipline, by putting soap on their tongue, when Child A and B were heard swearing.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1913	Discipline; child handling.
	(3) Personnel shall not do any of the following: (b) Use any substance in a child's mouth such as, but not limited to, soap, hot sauce, or vinegar.
ANALYSIS:	Ms. Simpson admitted to touching her finger to a soap bottle, then touching Child A and B's tongue as a method of discipline because they were swearing.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend modification of the current status of the license to provisional.

Christine Noel

03/20/2020

Christine Noel
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:

Scott Bettys

03/20/2020

Scott W. Bettys
Area Manager

Date