



News Release

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King County nurse suspended on allegations of sexual contact with two minors

OLYMPIA – The state Department of Health immediately suspended the license of King County registered nurse Michael Joseph Horton (RN.60401543) pending further legal action. The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission referred this case to the secretary of the Department of Health based on allegations of sexual misconduct.

Horton allegedly had sexual contact with two minors. He has been charged with first-degree child rape, first-degree child molestation, and sexual exploitation of a minor in Grays Harbor Superior Court.

Horton cannot practice in Washington until the charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing.

The legal documents on this case can be seen online by clicking the link on [Provider Credential Search](#) on the [Department of Health website](#); copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call this number and report their complaint.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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