



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Home and Community Living Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600**

April 9, 2026

ELECTRONIC-FACSIMILE

Administrator
THE COTTAGES AT MILL CREEK
13200 10TH DRIVE SE
MILL CREEK, WA 98012

Assisted Living Facility License # **1977**
Licensee: MILL CREEK SPECIAL CARE COMMUNITY LLC

IMPOSITION OF CIVIL FINE

Dear Administrator:

On March 31, 2026, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Residential Care Services completed a complaint investigation at your facility. This letter constitutes formal notice of a civil fine on the license for your assisted living facility, also known as **THE COTTAGES AT MILL CREEK**, located at **13200 10TH DRIVE SE, MILL CREEK**, by the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services. These actions are taken under the authority granted pursuant to Laws of 1998, Chapter 272 and RCW 18.20.190.

The civil fine on the license is based on the following violation of the RCW and/or WAC as described in the attached Statement of Deficiencies (SOD) report dated March 31, 2026.

Civil Fine

WAC 388-78A-2371 (1)(2)(3) Investigations.

\$300.00

The licensee failed to investigate, determine the circumstances, and institute preventative measures when a staff member administered medication without following the prescribed orders for one resident. This failure resulted in the facility not being able to determine the circumstances, rule out abuse or neglect or identify preventative measures for the resident and placed the resident at risk of future medication errors.

This is a recurring deficiency previously cited on July 24, 2025, and March 13, 2024.

NOTE: This is the violation, which resulted in the fine; see the attached Statement of Deficiencies for any additional violations.

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Attestation (Plan of Correction):

Return the enclosed SOD within 10 calendar days with the following:

- The date you have or will have each deficiency corrected;
- A signature and date attesting that you are taking actions to correct and maintain correction for each cited deficiency.

Return the signed and dated SOD to:

Jim Sherman, Field Manager
Region 2, Unit D
20425 72nd Ave S suite 400
Kent, WA 98032-2388
Phone: (253) 234-6020/ Fax: (253) 395-5071
rcsregion2email@dshs.wa.gov

Appeal Rights:

You have two appeal rights: Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) and an Administrative Hearing. Each has a different request timeline.

Informal Dispute Resolution [RCW 18.20.195]

You have an opportunity to challenge the deficiencies and/or enforcement actions through the state's IDR process. **All IDR requests must be in writing and include:**

- The deficiencies you are disputing; and
- The method of review you prefer (face-to-face, telephone conference or documentation review).

The written request must be received by the 10th working day from receipt of this letter.

During the IDR process, you will have the opportunity to present written and/or oral evidence to dispute the deficiencies.

You can make an IDR request and find directions on the IDR web page at:
<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/idr>

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Formal Administrative Hearing

You may contest the civil fine by requesting a formal administrative hearing to challenge the deficiency, which resulted in the civil fine. **All hearing requests must be in writing and include:**

- A copy of this letter; and
- A copy of the Statement of Deficiencies.

The written request must be received within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of receipt of this letter.

Send your **written** request to:

Office of Administrative Hearings
PO Box 42489
Olympia, Washington 98504-2489

Payment:

If you do not request a formal administrative hearing, the civil fine is due to the Office of Financial Recovery twenty-eight (28) calendar days after receipt of this letter.

Mail a check for **\$300.00** payable to the 'Department of Social and Health Services', **and if you have or have had a Medicaid resident(s), please include your ProviderOne ID Number # on the check,** to:

DSHS Office of Financial Recovery
PO Box 9501
Olympia, WA 98507-9501
(360) 664-5919 / FAX: (360) 664-8401
OFRMMISVendor@dshs.wa.gov

If the Office of Financial Recovery has not received your payment within twenty-eight (28) days after receipt of this letter, interest will begin to accrue immediately on the balance, at the rate of one percent per month. If you do not submit a hearing request or make payment within twenty-eight (28) days, the balance due will be recovered.

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NOTICE: State and federal law provide protections to defendants who are in military service, and to their dependents. Dependents of a service member are the service member's spouse, the service member's minor child, or and individual for whom the service member provided more than one-half of the individual's support for one hundred eight days immediately preceding an application for relief.

One protection provided is the protection against the entry of a default judgment in certain circumstances. This notice pertains only to a defendant who is a dependent of a member of the National Guard or a military reserve component under a call to active service, or a National Guard member under a call to service authorized by the governor of the state of Washington, for a period of more than thirty consecutive days. Other defendants in military service also have protections against default judgments not covered by this notice. If you are the dependent of a member of the national guard or a military reserve component under a call to active service, or a national guard member under a call to service authorized by the governor of the state of Washington, for a period of more than thirty consecutive days, you should notify the Department in writing of your status as such within twenty days of the receipt of this notice. If you fail to do so, then a court or an administrative tribunal may presume that you are not a dependent of an active duty member of the national guard or reserves, or a national guard member under a call to service authorized by the governor of the state of Washington, and proceed with the entry of an order of default and/or a default judgment without further proof of your status. Your response to the Department about your status does not constitute an appearance for jurisdictional purposes in any pending litigation nor a waiver of your rights.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Sherman, Field Manager, at (253) 234-6020.

Sincerely,



Matt Hauser
Compliance Specialist
Residential Care Services

Enclosure

cc: Field Manager, Region 2, Unit D
RCS Regional Administrator, Region 2
HCS Regional Administrator, Region 2
DDA Regional Administrator, Region 2
WA LTC Ombuds
Office of Financial Recovery, Vendor Program Unit
HQ Central Files
DRW
HP