

Alabama Department of Public Health

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:  <b>P6303</b>	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING: _____  B. WING _____	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED  <b>C</b> <b>11/14/2024</b>
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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER  <b>MORNING POINTE OF TUSCALOOSA SPECIALTY CA</b>	STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE <b>1801 RICE MINE ROAD NORTH TUSCALOOSA, AL 35406</b>
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A 000	<p>Initial Comments</p> <p>On November 14, 2024, an unannounced licensure survey was conducted for this 60 bed Specialty Care Assisted Living Facility (SCALF) with a census of 48.</p> <p>There was one (1) complaint investigated during this survey. LC#20230328003 was unsubstantiated. There were no deficiencies cited as a result of the complaint investigation.</p> <p>Deficiencies were cited during this survey for failure to operate in accordance with the Rules of the Alabama State Board of Health (SBOH), Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Chapter 420-5-20, Alabama Administrative Code, Specialty Care Assisted Living Facilities. The deficient practices resulted in the potential for harm to all residents and require a plan of correction.</p>	A 000		
A1201	<p>420-5-20-.12 (1) Physical Environment.</p> <p>(1) Buildings and Grounds.</p> <p>(a) The specialty care assisted living facility including site and grounds must be constructed, arranged, and maintained to ensure the safety of the residents and building occupants.</p> <p>(b) Building Classification.</p> <p>1. Group specialty care assisted living facilities shall be planned to serve the residents to be admitted and shall comply with Section (1), (2), (3), (5), (6), and (8) of AAC Rule 420-5-20.12.</p> <p>2. Congregate specialty care assisted living facilities shall be planned to serve the</p>	A1201		

Health Care Facilities  
LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ (X6) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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A1201	<p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>residents to be admitted and shall comply with Sections (1), (2), (3), (7), and (8) of AAC Rule 420-5-20-.12.</p> <p>3. Renovation within the exterior walls of a specialty care assisted living facility shall in no case be of such nature as to lower the character of the structure below the applicable building requirements for the classification of license held by the specialty care assisted living facility.</p> <p>4. Dually licensed facilities.</p> <p>(i) For the purposes of meeting physical facility and building code requirements, a building housing both a regular assisted living facility and a specialty care assisted living facility shall be classified as a Group or Congregate facility in accordance with the combined licensed bed capacities of both facilities. For the purposes of meeting resident care and administrative requirements, the specialty care assisted living facility and the regular assisted living facility shall be separately considered, and each shall be classified as a Congregate facility or a Group facility in accordance with the licensed bed capacity of each, and the determination shall not be based on their combined bed capacity.</p> <p>(ii) When a facility has a portion of a building licensed for specialty care residents, instead of the entire facility, the sleeping, bathing, dining, and activity areas shall be in a distinct and separate unit within the building, licensed for specialty care assisted living. Administrative, kitchen, and service areas may be shared between the two licensed portions.</p>	A1201		

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A1201	<p>Continued From page 2</p> <p>(c) Location. Each specialty care assisted living facility established or constructed shall be located so that it is free from undue noises, smoke, dust, or foul odors. New assisted living facilities shall be located at least 1,000 feet from railroads, freight yards, or disposal plants. This distance can be reduced to 500 feet when facility is separated by a boarded fence at least 6 feet high. This rule shall not prevent enlargement or expansion of existing assisted living facilities.</p> <p>(d) Local Restrictions. The location and construction of a specialty care assisted living facility shall comply with local zoning, building, and fire ordinances. Evidence to this effect, signed by local fire, building, or zoning officials, may be required as a condition of licensure. If a facility is to be located in an area that does not have any zoning, building, or fire authority review, a letter stating such shall be obtained from the local county commission through official board action or from the office of the probate judge.</p> <p>(e) Specialty Care assisted living facilities shall be located on publicly maintained streets or roads, and connected with driveways which shall be kept passable at all times.</p> <p>(f) Occupancy. No part of a specialty care assisted living facility may be rented, leased, or used for any commercial purpose not reasonably necessary for the residents of the facility. Only residents of the facility shall be permitted to utilize these services. The Department shall approve all plans for occupancy.</p> <p>(g) Basements. The basement shall be considered as a story if it meets criteria</p>	A1201		

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A1201	<p>Continued From page 3</p> <p>established by the codes for a story.</p> <p>(h) The specialty care assisted living facility must maintain adequate furnishings, fixtures, supplies, and equipment for its services.</p> <p>(i) Facilities, supplies, and equipment must be maintained in safe operating condition.</p> <p>(j) There must be proper ventilation, light, and temperature controls in pharmaceutical, food preparation, and other appropriate areas.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on observation and interviews, the facility failed to maintain a safe environment in the outdoor area.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>During a tour of the facility grounds, on the morning of November 13, 2024, the surveyor and Employee Identifier (EI)#5 observed a wooden fence in the courtyard area outside the private dining room which was rotten and leaning. The rotten fence was a potential hazard to anyone walking in the area. EI#5 and EI#1 agreed the fence was a hazard. EI#5 stated the fence would be removed that same day.</p>	A1201		
A1203	<p>420-5-20-.12 (5) Physical Environment.</p> <p>(5) General Building Requirements - Group and Congregate.</p> <p>(a) Structural Soundness and Repair. The building shall be structurally sound, free from</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 4</p> <p>leaks and excessive moisture, in good repair, and painted with sufficient frequency to be reasonably attractive inside and out. The interior and exterior of the building shall be kept clean and orderly.</p> <p>(b) Temperature to be Maintained. The facility shall maintain a comfortable temperature. A comfortable range is between 71-81 degrees Fahrenheit.</p> <p>(c) Lighting. Each resident's room shall have artificial light adequate for reading and other uses as needed. All entrances, hallways, stairways, inclines, ramps, cellars, attics, storerooms, kitchens, laundries, and service units shall have sufficient artificial lighting to prevent accidents and promote efficiency of service. Night lights shall be provided in all hallways, stairways, and bathrooms.</p> <p>(d) Screens. All screen doors and operable windows shall be equipped with tight-fitting, full-length 16 mesh screens. Screen doors shall be equipped with self-closing devices.</p> <p>(e) Emergency Lighting.</p> <p>1. All specialty care assisted living facilities shall provide an emergency artificial lighting system to adequately illuminate halls, corridors, and stairwells in case of electrical power failure. As a minimum, dry cell battery-operated lighting shall be provided to light such spaces.</p> <p>2. Emergency lighting must provide illumination in accordance with the currently adopted Life Safety Code for at least 90 minutes.</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 5</p> <p>(f) Floors.</p> <p>1. All floors shall be level, smooth and free of cracks, and finished so as to be easily kept clean. The basic requirement for floor finishes shall be wall-to-wall with such finishes as paint, stain, sealer, carpet, sheet vinyl, vinyl tile, hard tile, or other appropriate floor finish.</p> <p>2. Any differences in floor levels shall not prevent a resident from navigating safely throughout the facility.</p> <p>(g) Walls and Ceilings. All walls and ceilings shall be of sound construction with an acceptable surface and shall be kept clean and in good repair.</p> <p>(h) Windows. Operable windows shall be so constructed and maintained so that they fit snugly, and are capable of being opened and closed easily. Windows in specialty care facilities may have devices which prevent full opening of the window.</p> <p>(i) Ceiling Height. Each room occupied by residents shall have a ceiling height of eight feet or more. Existing facilities with ceiling heights less than eight feet shall be acceptable when the height complies with the codes.</p> <p>(j) Handrails. If handrails are installed in halls or corridors, the handrails shall be mounted at 30 - 36 inches above the floor and returned to the wall at each end.</p> <p>(k) Stairways. Stairways shall be well lighted, kept in good repair, and have handrails.</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 6</p> <p>Open space under stairs shall not be used for storage purposes. All walls and doors under stairs shall meet the same fire rating as the stairwell.</p> <p>(l) Doors.</p> <p>1. In each new specialty care assisted living facility, doors of resident bathrooms connected to resident bedroom shall swing into the bedroom.</p> <p>2. Bedroom and bathroom doors may be equipped with hardware that will permit a resident to lock himself within the room, provided a master key is readily accessible for the staff at a central location.</p> <p>3. Resident bedroom and other exit access doors in specialty care assisted living facility shall be at least three feet wide.</p> <p>4. Exterior egress doors except the main entry/exit door, may be equipped with a delayed egress locking system installed in accordance with NFPA 101. Other exterior egress doors may be arranged to prevent free and unhindered egress from specialty care assisted living facilities, in accordance with the Special Requirements portion of this section.</p> <p>5. Exit doors swinging outward shall swing out over a landing having a minimum length and width equal to the door's width at the same level as the floor level, except existing doors shall not have more than a four inch step down.</p> <p>(m) Ventilation. The building shall be</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 7</p> <p>well ventilated at all times to prevent accumulation of objectionable odors. Kitchens, laundries, service rooms, toilets, and bathrooms shall be ventilated by windows, gravity vents, or mechanical means as necessary to prevent offensive odors from entering other parts of the facility.</p> <p>(n) Fire Extinguishers. Fire extinguishers shall be provided for each hall, kitchen, and laundry, of type and capacity appropriate to the need.</p> <p>1. Each fire extinguisher shall receive an annual inspection with maintenance, and recharging when necessary, by a fire equipment servicing representative. An annual servicing tag shall be attached to the extinguisher reflecting the name of the servicing company, representative, day, month, and year of maintenance.</p> <p>2. A visual inspection of each fire extinguisher shall be conducted monthly by a designated staff of the facility and documented on the attached extinguisher tag by the designated staff person.</p> <p>(o) Call System. A central electric or electronic call system shall be conveniently provided for each resident, usable in bedrooms and bathrooms. The call system shall be certified to meet the applicable Underwriters Laboratories standard.</p> <p>(p) Manufactured homes/mobile homes are not permitted.</p> <p>(q) Fireplaces and inserts shall be inspected and cleaned annually, and shall comply</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 8</p> <p>with the currently adopted building code. Openings shall be protected with screens or doors.</p> <p>(r) Exit marking. In all facilities, a sign bearing the word "EXIT" in plain legible block letters shall be placed at each exit. Additional signs shall be placed in corridors and passageways wherever necessary to indicate the direction of exit. Letters of signs shall be at least four inches high. All exit and directional signs shall be kept clearly legible by continuous internal electric illumination and have battery back-up or emergency power.</p> <p>(s) Heating, Lighting, and other Service Equipment.</p> <p>1. Central or individual room gas heating systems shall be of the enclosed flame type equipped with automatic flame shut-off control and shall be vented directly to the outside. Heating units of any type shall be located to avoid direct contact with any combustible material and shall be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendation.</p> <p>2. Open flame and portable heaters are prohibited in specialty care assisted living facilities. This does not apply to a fire place with gas logs protected as noted elsewhere in these rules.</p> <p>3. Lighting shall be restricted to electricity. Electric wiring, motors, and other electrical equipment in all specialty care assisted living facilities shall be in accordance with local electrical codes and the NFPA National Electrical Code.</p>	A1203		

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A1203	<p>Continued From page 9</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on observations and interviews, window screens were not properly maintained.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>During a tour of the facility grounds, on the morning of November 13, 2024, the surveyor and EI#5 observed that multiple window screens were torn, bent or damaged. In addition, some windows did not contain screens. EI#5 and EI#1 agreed the screens needed to be replaced. On the morning of November 14, 2024, EI#1 reported to the surveyor that new window screens had been ordered to replace the missing or damaged screens.</p> <p>CONNIE CHERRY, REGISTERED NURSE</p>	A1203		