

**Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education** 1747 N. Market Blvd. Ste 225 Sacramento, CA 95834 P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818 P (916) 574-8900 F (916) 263-1897 www.bppe.ca.gov



# APPEAL OF CITATION INFORMAL CONFERENCE DECISION: CITATION AFFIRMED

March 24, 2021

The Stride Center, Owner The Stride Center 1212 Broadway, Suite 400 Oakland, CA 94612

Date of Issuance	Citation Number	Institution Code
March 24, 2021	2021035	69608096

On November 20, 2020, an informal telephone conference was held in the matter of Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement 2021035 (Citation) against The Stride Center, Owner of The Stride Center (Institution). In attendance were Beth Scott, Enforcement Chief, and Sergio Medina, CEO.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code, section 125.9; California Education Code, section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, section 75020 and section 75040, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) renders the following decision relative to your appeal of the Citation No. 2021035.

It is the decision of the Enforcement Chief that on March 18, 2021, Citation No. 2021035 is <u>affirmed</u> for the following reason(s):

> No new substantive facts were presented at the conference.

# VIOLATION CODE SECTIONS

#	Below you will find the California Education Code (CEC) and/or Title 5 of the California			
	Code of Regulations (5, CCR code) section(s) of law you are charged with violating.			
1.	Violation:			
	5, CCR Section 76130 (a-e) – Collection and Submission of Assessments			
	"(a) A qualifying institution shall collect the assessment from each student in an educational program			
	at the time it collects the first payment from or on behalf of the student at or after enrollment. The			
	assessment shall be collected for the entire period of enrollment, regardless of whether the student			
	pays the institutional charges in increments.			
	(b) A qualifying institution shall complete the STRF Assessment Reporting Form (Rev. 2/10) and remit			
	it with the STRF assessments collected from students to be received by the Bureau no later than the			
	last day of the month following the close of the quarter as follows:			
	(1) April 30 for the first quarter,			
	(2) July 31 for the second quarter,			

(3) October 31 for the third quarter, and

(4) January 31 for the fourth quarter. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or State or federal holiday, the due date shall be extended to the next regular business day for the Bureau.

If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or State or federal holiday, the due date shall be extended to the next regular business day for the Bureau.

(c) The STRF Assessment Reporting Form shall contain the following information:

(1) Total number of students who signed enrollment agreements for educational programs during the reporting period; and

(2) Total number of students eligible for STRF who signed enrollment agreements for educational programs during the reporting period; and

(3) The total number of students who signed their enrollment agreement during the reporting period, were eligible for STRF, and who made their first payment during the reporting period; and

(4) The total number of students who signed their enrollment agreement in a previous reporting period, were eligible for STRF, and who made their first payment during the current reporting period; and

(5) Total amount of institutional charges after rounding each student's institutional charges to the nearest \$1,000, for all eligible STRF students whose STRF assessment was collected in the reporting period; and

*(6) Current contact telephone number of the person preparing the form; and* 

(7) A declaration dated and signed under penalty of perjury by the person preparing the form that the form and any attachments are true and correct.

(d) In the event of a school closure, any collected assessments shall be remitted to the Bureau within seven days following the cessation of instruction

(e) Submission of all prior reports and assessments required by this section is a condition of renewal."

The Institution has failed to submit STRF Assessment Reporting Forms for the following quarters:

- Second Quarter of 2017;
- Second, Third, and Fourth Quarters of 2019; and
- First and Second Quarters of 2020.

On June 29, 2017, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 2nd quarter of 2017 was due. As September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.

On June 24, 2019, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 2nd quarter of 2019 was due. As September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.

On September 18, 2019, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 3rd quarter of 2019 was due. As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.

On December 17, 2019, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 4th quarter of 2019 was due. As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the

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	Institution.
	On March 24, 2020, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 1st quarter of 2020 was due. As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.
	On June 18, 2020, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, that the STRF Assessment Reporting Form for the 2nd quarter of 2020 was due. As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the STRF Assessment Reporting Form from the Institution.
	<b>Order of Abatement:</b> The Bureau orders that the Institution submit the delinquent STRF Assessment Reporting Forms with the STRF Assessments collected from students for the quarters listed above. The information provided shall comply with "Record Keeping Requirements" Pursuant to 5, CCR section 76140.
	Assessment of Fine The fine for this violation is \$50.00
2.	<b>Violation:</b> <b>5, CCR Section 74006(a) and (b) - Annual Fee</b> "(a) An institution's annual fee is due within 30 days of the date on which the institution originally receives its approval to operate and each year thereafter on the anniversary of the date of the original approval. (b) An institution shall pay its annual fee in addition to any other applicable fees.
	<b>CEC Section 94930.5 (d)(1)(A)-Fee Schedule</b> (d) (1) In addition to any fees paid to the bureau pursuant to subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, each institution that is approved to operate pursuant to this chapter shall remit both of the following: (A)An annual fee for each campus designated by the institution as a main campus location in California, in an amount equal to 0.45 percent of the campus' total gross revenue derived from students in California, but not to be less than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000).
	<b>CEC Section 94931(a)(b)- Late Payment</b> "(a) A fee that is not paid on or before the 30th calendar day after the due date for the payment of the fee shall be subject to 25 percent late payment penalty fee." "(b) A fee that is not paid on or before the 90th calendar day after the due date for the payment of the fee shall be subject to 35 percent late payment penalty fee."
	<b><u>2017 Late Payment Penalty Fee</u></b> The Institution has failed to pay its late payment penalty fee for the calendar year 2017.
	On April 14, 2017, the Institution was notified Invoice # 900320578 via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2017 was due on May 1, 2017.
	On May 4, 2017, the Bureau received partial payment for the annual fee in the amount of \$396.24.
	On June 14, 2017, the Bureau received the remaining payment for the annual fee in the amount of
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\$2,103.76. However, the penalty fee was not included with the fees submitted.
On June 15, 2017, the 1st Delinquency Notice (Invoice # 900322348) was sent via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2017 was due on May 1, 2017.
On June 22, 2017, the Institution was notified via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that a remaining balance of \$525.94 was due for the late payment penalty fee.
As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the late payment penalty fee for calendar year 2017.
2020 Annual Fee and Late Payment Penalty Fee
The Institution has failed to pay its annual fee and late payment penalty fee for calendar year 2020.
On April 1, 2020, the Institution was notified Invoice # 900349299 via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on May 1, 2020.
On June 16, 2020, the 1st Delinquency Notice (Invoice # 900350168) was sent via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on May 1, 2020.
On August 17, 2020, the 2nd Delinquency Notice (Invoice # 900350168) was sent via mail at, 1212 Broadway, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612, stating that the annual fee for calendar year 2020 was due on May 1, 2020.
As of September 3, 2020, the Bureau has not received the annual fee nor late payment penalty fee for calendar year 2020 from the Institution.
<b>Order of Abatement:</b> The Bureau orders the Institution to submit its annual fees for the calendar year 2020 in accordance with 5, CCR section 74006(a)(b) and CEC section 94930.5(d)(1)(A). In addition, the Institution must pay all late payment penalty fees for calendar years 2017 and 2020.
Assessment of Fine
 The fine for this violation is \$00.00
TOTAL MODIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: <u>\$50.00</u>

# ORDER OF ABATEMENT

The Bureau orders that you comply with the orders described in the 'Violation Code Sections' of this document and submit evidence of compliance within <u>30 days</u> from the date of this decision.

#### PENALTY – ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

**Payment of the administrative fine is due within** <u>30 days</u> from the date of this decision. Please complete the <u>Payment of Fine</u> form. Payment must be made to the Bureau by check, or money order. Please include the citation number on the payment of the fine assessment. Payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for purposes of public disclosure. Payments may be mailed to:

> Nicole Mitchell, Discipline Citation Program Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education 1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

#### APPEAL OF CITATION

You *do not* have the right to request another Informal Conference to appeal this affirmed Citation. You *do*, however, have the right to appeal this affirmed Citation through an Administrative Hearing. A hearing before an Administrative Law Judge will be scheduled and you will be notified of the hearing date. The hearing will be held pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

If you do not wish to appeal this affirmed Citation you must withdraw your initial request for an Administrative Hearing, if one was made. Please complete and mail the enclosed <u>Withdrawal –</u> <u>Request for Administrative Hearing</u> within <u>**30 Days**</u> of the date of this decision.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION AND FINE ASSESSMENT

This affirmed Citation is effective on **March 24, 2021.** The order of abatement and payment are due by **April 23, 2021**.

Failure to abate the violation or to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed is grounds for denial of an application for an approval to operate or discipline. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce the Affirmed Citation and recover the civil penalties prescribed therein or found to be due after a hearing.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions regarding this decision or desire further information, please contact Nicole Mitchell, Citation Analyst, at Nicole.Mitchell@dca.ca.gov.

"Original signature	on file"	"3/2	4/2021"

Christina Villanueva Discipline Manager Date

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### Enclosures

- Payment of Fine Waiver of Appeal Rights
  Withdrawal- Request for Administrative Hearing
  Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail

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