

Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

# State Rapid Response Investigative Public Report

Office of Health Facility Complaints

Maltreatment Report #: HL31696001M Date Concluded: August 1, 2022

**Compliance #:** HL31696002C

Name, Address, and County of Licensee

**Investigated:** 

Savage Senior Living 5950 West 130<sup>th</sup> Lane Savage, MN 55378 Scott County

Facility Type: Assisted Living Facility with Evaluator's Name: Peggy Boeck RN Dementia Care (ALFDC)

Special Investigator

Finding: Substantiated, individual responsibility

### **Nature of Visit:**

The Minnesota Department of Health investigated an allegation of maltreatment, in accordance with the Minnesota Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults Act, Minn. Stat. 626.557, and to evaluate compliance with applicable licensing standards for the provider type.

### Initial Investigation Allegation(s):

The alleged perpetrator (AP) financially exploited a resident when the AP stole a blank check from the resident and cashed it without the resident's consent.

### **Investigative Findings and Conclusion:**

The Minnesota Department of Health determined financial exploitation was substantiated. The AP was responsible for the maltreatment. The AP stole a blank check from the resident, wrote it out for \$3,940.45, and cashed the check. Bank surveillance video identified the AP as the person who cashed the check.

The investigator conducted interviews with facility staff members, including administrative staff, nursing staff, and unlicensed staff. The investigator contacted family, law enforcement, and the fraud department at the bank. The investigation included review of personnel records, resident medical records, resident financial records, bank surveillance photos, facility

documents, policies, and procedures regarding maltreatment of vulnerable adults, and care of resident property.

The resident resided in an assisted living facility due to diagnoses that included anxiety and heart failure. The resident's care plan included assistance with personal cares, wheelchair mobility, toileting, and safety checks.

According to a police report, a family member received an alert from the resident's bank. The alert notified the family member a \$3940.45 check had been cashed. The family member verified with the resident he did not write the check. The family member filed a report with law enforcement and contacted the bank.

During an interview, a family member stated she thought someone must have stolen the resident's check, as the resident and other family members reported they did not write the check. The family member noted the handwriting on the check did not belong to the resident or the family member who helped the resident with his finances, and the signature included the residents nickname and last initial only. The family member spoke with the bank that cashed the resident's check and discovered that there was a second check that someone also tried to cash. The family member stated the bank flagged the resident's account to prevent anyone from cashing any more checks and closed the account. The family member also contacted the facility about the stolen checks.

During an interview, a facility management staff stated the AP had made requests to work in the assisted living when scheduled to work in memory care, which she felt was odd. The management staff suspected the AP was not completing work, so installed a camera, which revealed the AP sleeping in a memory care room in a resident's recliner. The management staff stated they terminated the AP due to sleeping on the job, failure to complete job tasks, and failure to report for work. The management staff stated she looked at a copy of the stolen check and compared the handwriting to the AP's, which lead her to believe the AP stole the checks.

During an interview, the resident stated the AP talked to him about playing basketball, and how the AP got hurt in college which ruined the AP's possibility of a professional basketball career. The resident stated the AP was nice to him and the resident felt bad about his situation. The resident stated he previously kept a few checks in his billfold in his drawer, and the AP would have no reason to go in there. The resident stated after the check was stolen, he could no longer keep his own checks and depended on others. The resident feared the situation was his fault.

According to the law enforcement investigation, a friend of the AP left his identification in the AP's vehicle and the AP would not return the identification. The friend filed a report with law enforcement, and they discovered the AP had used the friend's identification to open a bank account. The AP also used the identification to obtain a state ID. The AP wrote the resident's

check out payable to the friend's name and cashed it using the stolen identification. Bank surveillance identified the AP cashing the check. The friend identified the AP in the bank surveillance photo. The facility management staff identified the AP in the bank surveillance photo. Legal charges were pending at the time of the report.

In conclusion, financial exploitation occurred.

### Substantiated: Minnesota Statutes, section 626.5572, Subdivision 19.

"Substantiated" means a preponderance of evidence shows that an act that meets the definition of maltreatment occurred.

# Financial exploitation: Minnesota Statutes, section 626.5572, subdivision 9

"Financial exploitation" means:

- (b) In the absence of legal authority, a person:
- (1) willfully uses, withholds, or disposes of funds or property of a vulnerable adult.

Vulnerable Adult interviewed: Yes

Family/Responsible Party interviewed: Yes

**Alleged Perpetrator interviewed**: No, the AP did not respond to requests for an interview or to a subpoena.

# Action taken by facility:

The alleged perpetrator no longer works at the facility.

## Action taken by the Minnesota Department of Health:

No further action taken.

cc:

The Office of Ombudsman for Long Term Care
The Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
Scott County Attorney
Dakota County Attorney
Burnsville City Attorney
Savage Police Department

PRINTED: 08/10/2022 FORM APPROVED

Minnesota Department of Health

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	<b>l</b> ` ´	LE CONSTRUCTION :	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED			
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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER			STATE, ZIP CODE	00/00/2022			
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SAVAGE SENIOR LIVING SAVAGE, MN 55378							
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0 000 Initial Comments		0 000					
In accordance with 144G.08 to 144G.9 issued pursuant to Determination of water requires compliant provided at the state When a Minnesotal items, failure to combe considered lack INITIAL COMMEN #HL31696002C/#HOUSE ON June 6, 2022, the Health conducted a above provider, and is issued. At the time investigation, there is services under the Dementia Care lice.	A Minnesota Statutes, section 25, these correction orders are a complaint investigation.  Whether a violation is corrected the with all requirements tute number indicated below. A Statute contains several imply with any of the items will a of compliance.  TS:  HL31696001M  The Minnesota Department of a complaint investigation at the did the following correction order ine of the complaint were 105 clients receiving provider's Assisted Living with tense.  Ection order is issued for HL31696001M, tag		Minnesota Department of Health is documenting the State Licensing Correction Orders using federal so Tag numbers have been assigned Minnesota State Statutes for Assis Living Facilities. The assigned tag number appears in the far left cold entitled "ID Prefix Tag." The state number and the corresponding testate Statute out of compliance is the "Summary Statement of Deficicolumn. This column also includes findings which are in violation of the requirement after the statement, "Minnesota requirement is not met evidenced by." Following the evaluation for Complease DISREGARD THE HEALTHE FOURTH COLUMN WHICH STATES, "PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION." THIS APPLIES TEDERAL DEFICIENCIES ONLY. WILL APPEAR ON EACH PAGE.  THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT A PLAN OF CORRECTION	oftware. to sted  Jimn Statute kt of the listed in lencies" s the ne state This as lators' rection.  DING OF  THIS  O ON FOR TATE  JMN IS SES AND EVEL			
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Minnesota Department of Health							

LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE

TITLE (X6) DATE

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Minnesota Department of Health

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION		(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION  A. BUILDING:		(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED				
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		31696	B. WING		06/06/2022				
NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE									
SAVAGE SENIOR LIVING  5950 WEST 130TH LANE  SAVAGE, MN 55378									
(X4) ID	SUMMARY STA	TEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES	ID ID	PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION	ON (X5)				
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	sexual, and emotion exploitation; and all covered under the	right to be free from physical, nal abuse; neglect; financial forms of maltreatment vulnerable Adults Act.							
	by: Based on interviews, and document review, the facility failed to ensure one of one residents reviewed (R1) was free from maltreatment. R1 was financially exploited.			No Plan of Correction (PoC) required. Please refer to the public maltreatment report (report sent separately) for details of this tag.					
	Findings include:								
	issued a determina occurred, and that a responsible for the with incidents which	Department of Health (MDH) tion that financial exploitation an individual staff person was maltreatment, in connection in occurred at the facility. The ere was a preponderance of eatment occurred.							

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