



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**  
**2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower**  
**Atlanta, GA 30334**

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

**Date:** 12/19/2017 **VisitType:** Complaint Closure from visit on 12/15/2017 **Arrival:** 10:10 AM **Departure:** 12:40 PM

**FR-000008766**

**Harris, Brenda D**

270 Travelers Rest Road Montezuma, GA 31063 Macon County  
 (229) 591-2572 BHARRISKIDDIEKARE@GMAIL.COM

**Mailing Address**

P.O. BOX 713  
 Montezuma, GA 31063

**Regional Consultant**

Rukiya Thomas

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rukiya.thomas@decal.ga.gov

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/19/2017	Complaint Closure	Good Standing
12/15/2017	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing
11/20/2017	Licensing Study	Good Standing

**Compliance Zone Designation** - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

**Good Standing** - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Support** - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.

**Deficient** - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Comments**


The complaint investigation was left pending on this date.

**Advisement of Potential for Repeated Rule Violations during Pending Investigations**

This report shall serve as official notice of potential rule violations. These potential rule violations have been detailed in this report and discussed with you by the consultant. The department shall conduct a thorough investigation to determine if in fact the alleged rule violation(s) should or should not be substantiated. Please be aware that the investigation may take some time to be finalized to ensure fairness and accuracy. During this investigation period, any violations of an identical rule or rules will require the department to treat any and all substantiated rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violation(s).

Further, from time to time the department discovers additional rule violations during the course of an investigation. If there are new rule violation(s), your consultant shall inform you of the violation(s) as soon as possible. However, as stated above, any violations of identical rule(s) will require the department to treat any and all additional rule violations identified in the investigation as repeated rule violations.

All rule violations found in relation to a complaint or incident investigation will be associated with the date the investigation was closed.



**Reminder:** All employees of child care programs must be fingerprinted before **January 1, 2017**. For instructions and to submit records check applications online, please visit [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com). You are encouraged not to wait and to complete the process as soon as possible.

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

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Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@decals.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRefutations@decals.ga.gov).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://decals.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

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Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

I have read and understand the Rules and Regulations for Family Child Care Learning Home, 290-2-3. I acknowledge that the items noted in this report have been discussed with me and I have agreed to a Plan of Improvement (POI) as indicated in this report. I understand that correction of these deficiencies, while required, will not necessarily prevent DECAL from taking adverse action against this facility. I understand that if I disagree with any of the deficiencies cited, I have the right to refute them on this report or any other form that I choose to send to Child Care Services.

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Brenda Harris, Program Official

Date

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Rukiya Thomas , Consultant

Date



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### Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Closure:

**Licensure**

**290-2-3-.05 Inspections & Investigations**

**Not Met**

**Finding Associated with Complaint**

290-2-3-.05(c) requires that the Provider not make or condone false or misleading statements to the Department in connection with any authorized investigation or inspection being conducted by the Department. It was determined based on investigative findings that the provider presented a fraudulent satisfactory fingerprint clearance letter to the consultant during the November 20, 2017 licensing study. She stated that she completed registration through COGENT and had her fingerprints scanned for submission to the Department. The Criminal Records Check Unit determined that the provider had not submitted a records check application to the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL), had not submitted fingerprints to COGENT for DECAL in 2017, and DECAL has no record of any such letter being generated.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will not make or condone false or misleading statements to the Department.

**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2017**

**Staff Records**

**Finding Associated with Complaint**

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires the Home maintain valid evidence of satisfactory criminal records check for the Provider and each Employee for the duration of their employment plus one year and to make such evidence immediately available to the Department upon request. It was determined based on investigative findings that the provider had a fraudulent satisfactory fingerprint clearance letter on file and presented it to the consultant during the November 20, 2017 licensing study. The Criminal Records Check Unit determined that the provider had not submitted a records check application to the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL), had not submitted fingerprints to COGENT for DECAL in 2017, and DECAL has no record of any such letter being generated.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home will ensure that each employee has a satisfactory criminal records check for each Employee.

**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2017**

**Finding Associated with Complaint**

290-2-3-.21(1)(a) requires the Home to ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee and Provisional Employee has a Satisfactory Records Check Determination before the individual is present at the Home while any child is present at the Home. It was determined based on investigative findings that the provider did not have a satisfactory records check determination on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Home Provider will obtain the required satisfactory records check determination(s). The Home will ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee and Provisional Employee has a Satisfactory Records Check Determination. The Provider, Employees, and Provisional Employees MUST have a Satisfactory Records Check Determination to reside in and be at the Home when a child is present for care.

**Correction Deadline: 12/19/2017**

**Finding Associated with Complaint**

290-2-3-.07(23) prohibits the Provider, Employees and Provisional Employees from committing any criminal act, as defined under Georgia law, in the presence of any child enrolled in the Home and requires compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. It was determined based on investigative findings that the provider presented a fraudulent satisfactory fingerprint clearance letter to the consultant during the November 20, 2017 licensing study. The Criminal Records Check Unit determined that the provider had not submitted a records check application to the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL), had not submitted fingerprints to COGENT for DECAL in 2017, and DECAL has no record of any such letter being generated.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider and Employees will follow all applicable laws and regulations and will not commit any crime in the presence of a child.

**Correction Deadline: 12/15/2017**