BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95833 P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818 P (916) 431-6959 | Toll-Free (888) 370-7589 | www.bppe.ca.gov



# MODIFIED CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT

To: Chase Frazier, Owner Champion Steno, LLC 39855 Tanager Trail Murrieta, CA 92562

INSTITUTION CODE: Unapproved CITATION NUMBER: 1819132

MODIFIED CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: December 9, 2019

**MODIFIED DUE DATE: January 8, 2020** 

FINE AMOUNT: \$ 10,000.00

ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: YES

Christina Villanueva issues this Modified Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Discipline Manager of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

#### **CITATION**

A Modified Citation is hereby issued to Chase Frazier, Owner of Champion Steno, LLC (Institution) located at 39855 Tanager Trail, Murrieta, CA 92562, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9; California Education Code (CEC) sections 94936 and 94932; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5, CCR) section 75020 for the violations described below.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Bureau previously issued Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1819132 to the Owner of the Institution on February 28, 2019, which was appealed by the Institution and subsequently withdrawn without prejudice on December 3, 2019.

## **VIOLATION**

#	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:**

## CEC 94886. Approval to Operate Required

"Except as exempted in Article 4 (commencing with Section 94874) or in compliance with the transition provisions in Article 2 (commencing with Section 94802), a person shall not open, conduct, or do business as a private postsecondary educational institution in this state without obtaining an approval to operate under this chapter."

## **CEC 94817.5. Approved to Operate or Approved**

"Approved to operate" or "approved" means that an institution has received authorization pursuant to this chapter to offer to the public and to provide postsecondary educational programs."

CEC 94868. To Offer to the Public

"To offer to the public" means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit."

## CEC 94869. To Operate

"To operate" means to establish, keep, or maintain any facility or location in this state where, or from which, or through which, postsecondary educational programs are provided."

On June 8, 2018, Bureau staff reviewed the Institution's website at www. Chamionsteno.com, and confirmed that the Institution is offering an online course, "Court Reporting program", and charging \$7,176 to \$10,764. The Institution offers only online courses; however, their headquarters are located at 39855 Tanager Trail, Murrieta, CA 92562.

As of February 28, 2019, the Institution continues to operate without Bureau approval. The Institution does not qualify for any exemptions under CEC section 94874 and therefore requires the Bureau's approval to operate pursuant to CEC section 94886.

## Order of Abatement:

The Bureau orders that the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution. The Institution must discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including www.championsteno.com and any other websites not identified here that are associated with the Institution, until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. The Institution must disconnect all telephone service numbers that are associated with the Institution until such time as an approval to operate is obtained from the Bureau. To comply with the Order of Abatement the Institution must submit a school closure plan to the Bureau pursuant to California Education Code section 94926. The Institution must provide a roster of each student currently enrolled at the Institution. The roster must include the names of the students, their contact information (including phone number, email address, and physical address), the programs in which they are enrolled, the amount paid for the programs.

<u>Reason for modification</u>: New substantive facts were presented at the settlement conference. The Order of Abatement has been satisfied.

## **Assessment of Fine:**

The fine for this violation is \$75,000.00

The modified administrative fine for this violation is \$10,000.00

## **TOTAL MODIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$10,000.00**

#### ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

In accordance with CEC section 94936; and 5, CCR sections 75020 and 75030, the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fine in the amount of **\$10,000.00** for the violations described above. **Payment must be made to the Bureau by January 8, 2020.** 

## PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINE

The Institution shall pay the civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00 by way of cashiers' check or money order. The payment shall be mailed to:

Cheryl Lardizabal, Discipline Citation Program
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
P.O. Box 980818
West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818

The civil penalty must be paid to the Bureau by January 8, 2020. Payment of an administrative citation is not an admission of guilt or liability.

The Institution gives up the right to an administrative hearing and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws. The Institution's failure to pay the modified citation civil penalty pursuant to the terms of this settlement will result in this matter being referred to collection and will result in the full original penalty being imposed and due in full. The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education may file an Amended Modified Citation for the failure of conditions required of the Institution.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions regarding this Modified Citation, or desire further information, please contact Cheryl Lardizabal, Citation Analyst, at <a href="mailto:Cheryl.Lardizabal@dca.ca.gov">Cheryl.Lardizabal@dca.ca.gov</a>.

Christina Villanueva	 Date
Discipline Manager	

#### Enclosure

- Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail
- Payment of Fine