



Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
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CITATION: ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT

To: Thomas Gionis, Operator
Aristotle University
61 Sparrowhawk Drive
Irvine, CA 92604

INSTITUTION CODE: None - Unapproved
CITATION NUMBER: 1314002
CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: 08/20/13
DUE DATE: 9/19/13
FINE AMOUNT: \$ 50,000.00
ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: YES

Yvette Johnson issues this Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement (Citation) in her official capacity as Enforcement Chief of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) of the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

CITATION

A Citation is hereby issued to Thomas Gionis, Operator of Aristotle University (Institution) located at 6185 Paseo Del Norte #200, Carlsbad, California 92011; 701 Palomar Airport Road #240, Carlsbad, California 92011; and at all other Aristotle University locations pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 148; California Education Code (CEC) Section 94944; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) Section 75020 for the violation(s) described below.

VIOLATION

Table with 2 columns: # and description. Row 1: #1, Violation: CEC Section 94886 - Approval to Operate Required. Row 2: #, The California Education Code (CEC) and the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Below you will find the section(s) you are charged with violating.

**Order of Abatement:**

1. Aristotle University, through Thomas Gionis, shall cease operation as a private postsecondary educational institution at all locations throughout the State of California.
2. Aristotle University, through Thomas Gionis, shall discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media (including Internet sites), until such time as approval from the Bureau to operate is obtained.

The fine for this violation is \$50,000.00

**TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$50,000.00**

**ASSESSMENT OF FINE**

In accordance with CEC Section 94944; and 5 CCR Section 75020(b) the Bureau hereby issues this assessment of fine in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the violation(s) described above. **Payment must be made, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.**

**ORDER OF ABATEMENT**

In accordance with the provisions of 5 CCR Section 75020 the Bureau hereby issues the order(s) of abatement described above. **Evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement must be submitted, to the Bureau, within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation.**

**BACKGROUND**

The Bureau previously issued a Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1213016 to the Institution, Xanthi Gionis and Thomas Gionis on May 2, 2013, which was withdrawn without prejudice on June 21, 2013.

The Bureau's records indicate that Aristotle University does not have an approval to operate and Aristotle University is not approved to offer a Master's Degree in Public Health. On February 22, 2013, the Bureau issued an Order of Abatement ordering Aristotle University to cease operating as a Private Postsecondary Educational Institution.

**APPEAL OF CITATION**

You have the right to contest this Citation through an informal conference with the Bureau; and/or through an administrative hearing in accordance with Chapter 5 (Commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

If you wish to contest this Citation, you must submit the enclosed 'Notice of Appeal of Citation - Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing' form (enclosed) within 30 days from the date service of the Citation. *If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing within 30 days from the date service of the Citation, you will not be able to request one at a later time.*

Unless a written request for an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing is signed by you and delivered to the Bureau by **September 19, 2013**, you will be deemed to have waived or forfeited your right to appeal this matter.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION

If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing, this Citation shall become effective on **August 20, 2013**. Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **September 19, 2013**. Your payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged.

If a hearing is requested, you will not be required to comply with this Citation until 30 days after a final order is entered against you.


**Payment of the administrative fine and/or written request for appeal must be mailed to:**


Janel Quayle, Discipline Citation Program  
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Failure for an applicant or institution to abate the violation(s) listed above or to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed may result in denial of an application for an approval or renewal to operate; disciplinary action, and/or collection action. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce this 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 Citation, or desire further information, please contact Janel Quayle, Enforcement Analyst, at (916) 431-6940 or Janel.Quayle@dca.ca.gov.

  
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**Yvette Johnson**  
**Enforcement Chief**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Enclosures

- Applicable Laws
- Statement of Rights: Appeal Process Information Sheet
- Notice of Appeal of Citation: Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing
- Payment of fine – Wavier of Appeal