



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

To: Erika Saracino
Ashford University
8620 Spectrum Center Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92123

INSTITUTION CODE: 57064558
CITATION NUMBER: 1516064
CITATION ISSUANCE/SERVICE DATE: March 23, 2016
DUE DATE: April 22, 2016
FINE AMOUNT: \$ 5,000.00
ORDER OF ABATEMENT INCLUDED: YES

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

CITATION

A Citation is hereby issued to Erika Saracino, Operator of Ashford University located at 8620 Spectrum Center Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9; California Education Code (CEC) section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) section 75020 for the violations described below.

VIOLATION

Table with 2 columns: # and description of violation. Row 1: 1. Violation: CEC 94913(a)(2)(4) - Institutional Web Site Requirements. (a) An institution that maintains an Internet Web site shall provide on that Internet Web site all of the following: (2) A School Performance Fact Sheet for each educational program offered by the institution. (4) A link to the bureau's Internet Web site. On 2/2/2016, Bureau staff reviewed the institution's submitted annual report information to include the institution's website and found that there was no link for the School Performance Fact Sheet or a link to the Bureau's website as required by CEC 94913(a)(2)(4).

**Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders the institution to place on its website a working link to the School Performance Fact Sheet and a working link to the Bureau's website in compliance with CEC 94913(a)(2)(4).

**Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$5,000.00

**TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$5,000.00**

**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 **\$5,000.00** for the violations 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 CEC Section 94936 and 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**

In December 2014, Bureau staff conducted a compliance inspection at Ashford University. A review of the institution's website was conducted to ensure mandated minimum requirements were met. Bureau staff found that the institution's website included: the School Catalog, School Performance Fact Sheet, the most recent Annual Report, and a link to the Bureau's website. The Institution was compliant with the minimum requirements of the Act and Regulations. There were no violations detected.

On February 2, 2016, Bureau staff reviewed the institution's submitted annual report information and checked the institution's website, where they found that there was no link for the School Performance Fact Sheet or a link to the Bureau's website as required by CEC 94913(a)(2)(4).

**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 'Notice of Appeal of Citation – Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing' form (enclosed) within 30 days from the date of service of the Citation. *If you do not request an informal conference and/or an administrative hearing within 30 days from the 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 **April 22, 2016**, 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 **March 23, 2016**. Payment of the administrative fine and evidence of compliance with the order(s) of abatement shall be due by **April 22, 2016**. 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:**

Jody Wright, 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 Jody Wright, Enforcement Analyst, at 916-431-6940 or Jody.Wright@dca.ca.gov.

  
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**Elainea Shotwell**  
**Enforcement Manager**

March 23, 2016  
**Date**

**Enclosures**

- Applicable Laws Violated
- Statement of Rights: Appeal Process Information Sheet
- Notice of Appeal of Citation: Request for Informal Conference and/or Administrative Hearing
- Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal
- Declaration of Service by Certified and First Class Mail