



**Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education**  
1747 N. Market Blvd. Ste 225 Sacramento, CA 95834  
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**APPEAL OF CITATION INFORMAL CONFERENCE**  
**DECISION: CITATION AFFIRMED**

December 2, 2020

Cecilio Lorenzo, Owner  
Cornerstone International College  
14895 E. 14th Street, Suite 480  
San Leandro, CA 94578

Date of Issuance	Citation Number	Institution Code
December 2, 2020	1920344	Unapproved

On September 10, 2020, an informal telephone conference was held in the matter of Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1920344 (Citation) against Cecilio Lorenzo, Owner of Cornerstone International College (Institution). In attendance were Beth Scott, Enforcement Chief, Cecilio Lorenzo, Owner, and Ronald Reed, Co-Owner.

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code, section 148; California Education Code (CEC), section 94944; and Title 5 of California Code of Regulations (5, CCR), section 75020 and section 75040, the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (Bureau) renders the following decision relative to your appeal of the Citation No. 1920344.

It is the decision of the Enforcement Chief that on November 24, 2020 Citation No. 1920344 is affirmed for the following reason(s):

- No new substantive facts were presented at the conference.

**VIOLATION CODE SECTIONS**

#	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.	<p><b><u>Violation:</u></b>  <b>CEC Section 94886. Approval to Operate Required</b>  <i>“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.”</i></p> <p><b>CEC Section 94817.5. Approved to Operate or Approved</b>  <i>“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.”</i></p>

**CEC Section 94868. To Offer to the Public**

*“To offer to the public” means to advertise, publicize, solicit, or recruit.”*

**CEC Section 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 April 16, 2018, the Bureau received a complaint, alleging the Institution was operating without Bureau approval and offering educational programs to the public.

On November 29, 2018, Bureau staff found that the Institution’s website, [www.thecornerstonecollege.com](http://www.thecornerstonecollege.com), advertised an extensive list of educational programs, some of which require approval from other state and government agencies and accrediting bodies, including but not limited to, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Emergency Medical Services Authority (CA EMS), and the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Offering an Emergency Medical Technician program requires Bureau approval and falls outside the scope of an exempt category.

The list of educational programs offered includes:

- Allied Health Programs:
  - Sterile Processing Technician
  - Medical Billing and Coding
  - Physical Therapy Aid
  - Pharmacy Technology
  - Hemodialysis
  - Healthcare Interpreter
  - EKG Technician
  - Emergency Room (ER) Care Technician
  
- Nursing Programs:
  - Caregiving Certificate Program
  - General Science Classes
  - Nursing Assistant
  - Home Health Aide
  - CNA/ RNA (Acute/Restorative/Rehab)
  
- Continuing Education Programs:
  - Director of Staff Development – for RNs/ LVNs
  - Legal Nursing Consulting
  - NCLEX Prep & Review
  - Hemodialysis
  - RN Refresher Course
  - Hemodialysis RN CE
  - Hemodialysis PCTCE
  
- Health/ Wellness Programs:
  - Personal Fitness Training

- Become a Fitness Partner
- Personal Fitness/ Wellness Training
- Emergency Medical Services Programs:
  - Basic Life Support
  - BLS/CPR Online Class Part 1
  - Emergency Medical Technician Program
  - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
  - Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Medical Administrative Support Programs:
  - Hospital Unit Coordinator
  - Hospital Admitting Clerk
  - Medical Billing & Coding
  - Electronic Health Record Specialist
- Community e-Learning Programs:
  - TOEFL Prep & Review
- Language Programs:
  - Spanish
  - Filipino (Tagalog)
  - TOEFL Prep & Review
- Corporate University Programs:
  - Corporate University
  - Microsoft Office
  - Sales & Marketing
  - Career & Personal Development
  - Renewable Energy
  - Solar PV Certification Program

On December 13, 2018, Bureau staff conducted an investigation at 24301 Southland Drive, Suite 214 Hayward, CA 94545. On that same day, Bureau staff attempted to contact the owner of the Institution for the new school address.

On December 14, 2018, the Institution Owner notified Bureau staff that the Institution had moved to 4895 E. 14th Street, Suite 480, San Leandro, CA 94578, but the new location would not be set up until after the new year. On that same day, Bureau staff conducted an investigation at 8920 Emerald Park Drive, Suite F Elk Grove, CA 95624. Bureau staff found an advertisement on the outside of the building and an out of office sign located at the locked office.

**Order of Abatement:**

The Bureau orders that the Institution cease to operate as a private postsecondary educational institution, unless the Institution qualifies for an exemption under CEC section 94874. The Institution must discontinue recruiting or enrolling students and cease all instructional services and advertising in any form or type of media, including [www.thecornerstonecollege.com](http://www.thecornerstonecollege.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 including but not limited to, (888) 489-4334, 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.

**Assessment of Fine**

The fine for this violation is \$50,000.00

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

ORDER OF ABATEMENT

**The Bureau orders that you comply with the orders described in the 'Violation Code Sections' of this document and submit evidence of compliance within 30 days from the date of this decision.**

PENALTY – ASSESSMENT OF A FINE

**Payment of the administrative fine is due within 30 days from the date of this decision.** Please complete the Payment of Fine form. Payment must be made to the Bureau by check, or money order. Please include the citation number on the payment of the fine assessment. Payment of the administrative fine shall not constitute an admission of the violation(s) charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for purposes of public disclosure. Payments may be mailed to:

Gabriella Perez, Discipline Citation Program  
Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education  
1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225  
Sacramento, CA 95834

APPEAL OF CITATION

You *do not* have the right to request another Informal Conference to appeal this affirmed Citation. If you did not initially request an Administrative Hearing within 30 days from when the original citation was issued, you can no longer request one.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION AND FINE ASSESSMENT

This affirmed Citation is effective on **December 2, 2020**. The order of abatement and payment are due by **January 1, 2021**.

Failure to abate the violation or to pay the administrative fine within the time allowed is grounds for denial of an application for an approval to operate or discipline. The Bureau will promptly take all appropriate action to enforce the Affirmed 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 decision or desire further information, please contact Gabriella Perez, Citation Analyst, at (916) 574-8969 or at Gabriella.Perez@dca.ca.gov.

“Original signature on file”

“12/2/2020”

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**Christina Villanueva**  
**Discipline Manager**

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**Date**

Enclosures

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