BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY · GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818 P (916) 574-8900 | Toll-Free (888) 370-7589 | www.bppe.ca.gov



APPEAL OF CITATION INFORMAL CONFERENCE DECISION: CITATION MODIFIED

January 3, 2020

Symmetry Academy, LLC, Owner **Symmetry Academy** 5739 Tujunga Avenue North Hollywood, CA 91601

Date of Issuance	Citation Number	Institution Code
January 3, 2020	1920080	Unapproved

On November 15, 2019, an informal telephone conference was held in the matter of Citation: Assessment of Fine and Order of Abatement No. 1920080 (Citation) against Symmetry Academy, LLC, Owner of Symmetry Academy (Institution). In attendance were Yvette Johnson, Administrative Chief and Jose Puente, 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. 1920080.

It is the decision of the Administrative Chief that on December 12, 2019, Citation No. 1920080 is modified and makes the following change(s):

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. **Violation:**

CEC Section 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 Section 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 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 January 8, 2019, the Bureau reviewed the Institution's website at https://www.symmetry.academy/ and found that the Institution offers the following individual programs:

- The Art of DJing & Turntablism \$2000
- Music Marketing & Branding \$2000
- Sound Design \$2000
- Vocal Recording & Production \$2000
- Outboarding Mixing & Mastering \$2000
- Music Production & Audio Engineering \$9500

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.symmetry.academy/, 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, (818) 579-4833, 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 conference. The Order of Abatement has been satisfied.

Assessment of Fine:

The fine for this violation is \$25,000.00

The administrative fine for this violation has been modified from \$25,000.00 to \$5,000.00.

TOTAL MODIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE FINE DUE: \$5.000.00

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*, however, have the right to appeal this affirmed or modified Citation. You *do*, however, have the right to appeal this affirmed or modified Citation through an Administrative Hearing A hearing before an Administrative Law Judge will be scheduled and you will be notified of the hearing date. The hearing will be held pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

If you do not wish to appeal this modified Citation you must withdraw your initial request for an Administrative Hearing, if one was made. Please complete and mail the enclosed <u>Withdrawal – Request for Administrative Hearing</u> within <u>30 Days</u> of the date of this decision.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CITATION AND FINE ASSESSMENT

This modified Citation is effective on January 3, 2020. The payment is due by **February 2, 2020**.

Failure 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 Modified Citation and recover the civil penalties prescribed therein or found to be due after a hearing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding th	nis decision or desire	further information,	please contact
Gabriella Perez, Citation Analyst, at (916)) 574-8969 or at Gabri	ella.Perez@dca.ca.gov	

Christina Villanueva	Date	
Discipline Manager		

Enclosures

- > Payment of Fine Waiver of Appeal Rights
- ➤ Withdrawal- Request for Administrative Hearing
- Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail