

LONG TERM CARE COMMUNITY COALITION

Advancing Quality, Dignity & Justice

OSHA COVID-19 INSPECTIONS IDENTIFY NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS IN HOSPITALS, ASSISTED LIVING, & NURSING HOMES

CLOSE TO \$4 MILLION IN FINES LEVIED

January 6, 2021 – The coronavirus pandemic has had a profound – and, too often, catastrophic – impact on residents in nursing homes and assisted living. Rather than take responsibility for resident safety and care in the face of a growing death toll, the nursing home industry, through its multi-million dollar lobbying firms and associated academics, has continually argued that resident safety during the pandemic was beyond its control. In fact, federal data and reporting indicate that too many nursing homes have a significant history of lax infection controls,¹ lacked safe staffing going in to the pandemic,² and failed, even during the pandemic, to implement basic infection control practices.³

Today, we are releasing [searchable information](#) on OSHA ([Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)) coronavirus-related issued citations. The file, available at [nursinghome411.org/osha-covid-citations/](https://www.nursinghome411.org/osha-covid-citations/), includes 294 OSHA citations in nursing homes, assisted living, hospitals, and other facilities nationwide. It is searchable by facility name, city, and state. We will update the page periodically, as OSHA updates its citation files.

The violations cited by OSHA principally fall under two sections of the federal code relating to occupational safety and health. They range from failures to properly report fatalities, deaths, or injuries of facility staff to utilizing respirators without ensuring that employees are qualified to use a respirator. The “notes” tab includes links to the relevant regulatory sections so that users can look up specific standards cited by a facility.

LTCCC is concerned that the longstanding lack of accountability and oversight in nursing homes and assisted living continues to put residents in grave danger. Far too many residents have suffered for months with little – or no! – visitation from family, friends, or LTC ombudsmen. While the nursing home industry has received [billions of dollars](#) in additional funding to help mitigate potential financial hardship, reports of abject resident neglect persist.

For more information and resources on nursing home and assisted living care, visit www.nursinghome411.org. Please email feedback@LTCCC.org with questions or comments.

¹ *Infection Control Deficiencies Were Widespread and Persistent in Nursing Homes Prior to COVID-19 Pandemic*, GAO-20-576R (May 2020). Available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-20-576R>.

² See “Nursing Home Update: Too Many Facilities Severely Understaffed Before COVID-19” (May 2020). Available at <https://nursinghome411.org/nursing-homes-understaffed-before-covid-19/>.

³ See, for example, “New CMS Survey Shows 36% Of Long-Term Care Facility Staff Still Aren’t Washing Their Hands Properly, Levin & Perconti (April 2020). Available at <https://blog.levinperconti.com/hand-hygiene-prevent-covid-19/>.