

**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER'S HEARING
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA**

February 27, 2026
1:00 p.m.

8th Floor Conference Room
County Building, South Bend, IN

Department of Health Staff Present:

Michelle Migliore, D.O.
Diana Purushotham, MD - TEAMS
Briannah McCall, Director of Environmental Health
Kara Dishman, Assistant Director of Environmental Health
Jessica Dilling, Environmental Health Specialist
Melanie Martinez, Administrative Assistant
Marcellus Lebbin, Esq. – Counsel

Others Present:

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. The appeals hearing was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Migliore initiated introductions. Those who identified themselves for the record included Dr. Migliore, the appellant, Meijun Zhou, and an individual identified as Andrew, a friend of the appellant.

III. PROCESS

1. Reason for Hearing:

To consider the appeal submitted on February 19, 2026, regarding the denial of a Massage Establishment and Massage Therapist license for the business located at 1928 Lincolnway Way East, Mishawaka, Indiana.

2. Appellant's statement:

The appellant stated she is the new owner; the business is not currently operating, and she is seeking licensure prior to opening.

3. Department's statement:

The Department of Health presented the basis for denial, and Meijun Zhou noted that any prior unlicensed activity was under the previous owner. The landlord signed the lease on February 1, 2026, and Meijun signed the lease on February 5, 2026.

4. Anticipated Timeline:

A final decision is expected to be issued the following week.

IV. REASON WE ARE GATHERED TODAY

Dr. Migliore: On February 19, 2026, the Department of Health received a request to hear an appeal from the business located at 1928 Lincolnway East in Mishawaka, IN 46545. This is based on the denial of licensure for a St. Joseph County massage establishment license and a St. Joseph County massage therapist license issued on February 13, 2026.

V. FACTS OF SITUATION PRESENTED BY APPELLANT

The appellant stated that she is the new owner of the business and indicated that the establishment is not currently operating. She further noted that she had not yet fully established business operations, including obtaining a business bank account. Discussion occurred regarding the timing of her possession of the property and the lease agreement; however, clarification required assistance from a Mandarin interpreter.

Department staff clarified that any prior operation of the business without proper licensure would have been under the previous owner and not under the appellant's authority. The appeal was filed in order to obtain proper licensure before commencing operations.

VI. FACTS OF SITUATION PRESENTED BY HEALTH OFFICER

Dr. Migliore: For those listening, I would like to warn you that this next section contains some potentially offensive language.

On February 5, 2026, Meijun Zhou applied for a St Joseph County establishment license and a St. Joseph County Massage therapy license.

While reviewing this application, the Department of Health was provided with information from more than one person that included information about the Grand Opening of the business establishment dated February 8, 2026, which contained sexually explicit sexual content.

According to St. Joseph County Ordinance 113.11 Section A, provision number 11, "No Massage Establishment or persons employed in any Massage Establishment, by means of statement, solicitation, offer in print or electronic publication, sign, placard, storefront, or other medium, shall publish or distribute, any advertisement, picture, or statement that is sexually suggestive or implies sexual activity."

On February 13, 2026, there was a denial letter generated for St. Joseph County establishment licensure at 1928 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka, and the St. Joseph County Massage therapy licensure for Meijun Zhou.

On February 19, 2026, the Department of Health received a request for an appeals hearing concerning these two denials.

The appellant reiterated that the business is not currently operating and stated that she has not yet established full business operations, including a business bank account.

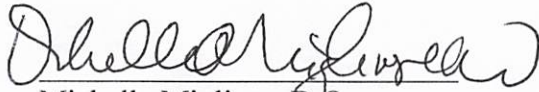
The hearing concluded with appreciation expressed to all participants for their time and cooperation. The Department of Health will review the information presented and issue a written decision the following week.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 Minute Limit)

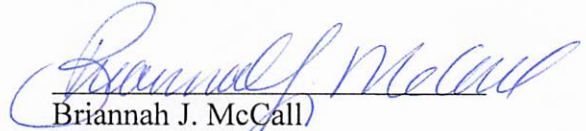
There was no public comment.

ADJOURNED: (1:31 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted:



Michelle Migliore, D.O.
St. Joseph County Health Officer



Briannah J. McCall
Director of Environmental Health