



Licensed Midwife Regulatory Disclosure Statements

I have received, read, and understand the following regulatory disclosure statements.

- ❖ Licensed Midwife Regulations Sign/date_____
- ❖ Experience and Training Sign/date_____
- ❖ Emergency Transport Plan Sign/date_____
- ❖ Complaint Procedures Sign/date_____
- ❖ Midwives Model of Care Sign/date_____
- ❖ Virginia Birth Injury Fund Sign/date_____
- ❖ Malpractice Insurance Sign/date_____
- ❖ Controlled Substances Sign/date_____
- ❖ Hospital Privileges Sign/date_____

Experience and Training

Misty Ward, Certified Professional Midwife: I began my path to midwifery at the age of 16 after I attended the birth of my nephew. At that time I began reading whatever pregnancy related books I could get my hands on. After high school I attended Eastern Mennonite University, where I majored for a time in Nursing with the plan of becoming a Certified Nurse Midwife. Not long into that program, I realized that the CNM certification and hospital-based practice did not fit into my philosophy of normal birth. I continued to attend EMU and in 2005, 10 days before the home birth of my second child, I graduated with a degree in History and minors in Biology and Psychology.

In late 2005 I began attending home births under the supervision of licensed midwives and documenting my experience and training as part of the requirements to acquiring the CPM (Certified Professional Midwife) certification through the NARM (North American Registry of Midwives) PEP Program. To supplement my homebirth training I volunteered and interned at several high volume birthing centers around the world. I spent time in the Dominican Republic with Medical Ministry International, El Paso, Texas at Casa De Nacimiento, and Senegal West Africa with the African Birth Collective. At this time I have attended more than 200 births. I received my CPM certification in February of 2010 and my Virginia license in March of 2010.

I am certified in CPR and neonatal resuscitation. I attend continuing education courses and several workshops each year. I am also trained as a Postpartum Doula by DONA. For more than 5 years I have been the director of Birth Matters Harrisonburg, a chapter of Birth Matters Virginia. I host and occasionally teach a Childbirth Education class each month and co-facilitate a monthly Birth Circle in Harrisonburg. Along with my services as a midwife I am available to families who desire a postpartum doula, birth pool rentals, and belly casting.

Complaints

If you have a complaint with the care we provide, our first request is that you discuss it with us, in person or in writing. If you are not satisfied with this you have the right, at any time, to file a formal complaint. This will initiate an internal investigation of our practice with the North American Registry of Midwives(our credentialing organization), the Virginia Board of Medicine (our licensing board), or both.

To file a complaint with NARM:

Formal complaints must be written and signed, and require the client to sign records release before peer-review can proceed. Written complaints are sent US Postal Mail (not email) to:

North American Registry of Midwives
Shannon Anton, CPM
PO Bo 128
Bristol, Vermont 05443-0128

For more information, please visit the NARM web site: www.narm.org. Additional questions may be sent via email to: info@narm.org

To file a complaint with the Board of Medicine:

The department of Health Professionals receives complaints about health care practitioners who may have violated a regulation or law. Complaints for all the licensing and regulatory boards are received and processed by the Enforcement Division.

The department is responsible for administering the laws and regulations pertaining to health care practitioners, which may include conducting investigations of alleged violations. In order for the department to initiate an investigation the information it receives must relate to a law or regulation governing a specific regulated profession or facility. While practitioners' actions may be considered improper, unethical, or otherwise deserving of corrective action, it may not be a violation of law.

Complaints related to a Licensed Midwife's alleged violation of a regulation or law may be submitted to the Board of Medicine through the Enforcement Division of the Department of Health Professions in writing, by telephone, fax, email, or in person.

Virginia Department of Health Professions Telephone: 1-800-533-1560
6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor Fax: 804-662-7079
Richmond VA, 23230-1712

Midwives Model of Care

The Midwives Model of Care is based on the fact that pregnancy and birth are normal life processes.

The MMOC includes:

- ❖ Monitoring the physical, psychological, and social well-being of the mother throughout the childbearing cycle
- ❖ Providing the mother with individualized education, counseling, and prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support
- ❖ Minimizing technological interventions
- ❖ Identifying and referring women who require obstetrical attention

The application of this women-centered model of care has been proven to reduce the incidence of birth injury, trauma, and cesarean section.

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Virginia Birth-related Neurological Injury Compensation Fund

Every year, a small number of babies are born with serious birth-related neurological injuries. The Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Fund helps parents with financial burdens associated with the life-long medical care that is needed for their child who suffered a brain injury at birth. The program covers what insurance and other programs don't, medically necessary expenses such as medical care, hospital care, rehabilitation, in-home nursing care and more. More information about this program can be found at www.vabirthinjury.com.

Physician's and hospital's that provide maternity service have the option to pay into the fund thereby making the benefits available to thier patients. Not all physician's who provide maternity services choose to participate in the fund.

Currently, Licensed Midwives do not participate in the fund due to the fact that the statute stipulates that babies who are born at home are NOT ELIGIBLE for this program.

Liabilty Insurance

We do not carry mal-practice insurance. At this time there is no liability coverage available for licensed midwives in Virginia who attend home births.

Controlled substances

Currently, Virginia law prohibits licensed midwives from carrying or administering controlled substances. This means that we are not allowed to have oxygen, pitocin, rhogam, newborn eye medication, or newborn vitamin K.

Hospital Privileges

As licensed midwives we attend only out-of-hospital births. We do not have hospital priveleges at any hospital. In the event of transfer of care we will accompany you and remain with you in hospital but the hospital physician will be your care provider.