

Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Printed: 07/30/2026
Form Approved OMB
No. 0938-0391

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 035234	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. Building B. Wing	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 05/05/2026
NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER Arizona State Veteran Home-Phx		STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 4141 North S Herrera Way Phoenix, AZ 85012	
For information on the nursing home's plan to correct this deficiency, please contact the nursing home or the state survey agency.			
(X4) ID PREFIX TAG	SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (Each deficiency must be preceded by full regulatory or LSC identifying information)		
F 0689 Level of Harm - Minimal harm or potential for actual harm Residents Affected - Few	Ensure that a nursing home area is free from accident hazards and provides adequate supervision to prevent accidents. **NOTE- TERMS IN BRACKETS HAVE BEEN EDITED TO PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY** Based on clinical record reviews, staff interviews, facility documentation, policy and procedures, the facility failed to ensure adequate supervision to prevent elopement for one resident (#1) out of 3 sampled residents. The deficient practice could result in avoidable accidents. Findings include: Resident # 1 was admitted to the facility on [DATE] with diagnoses that included hemiplegia and hemiparesis following cerebral infarction affecting the right dominant side, hypertensive heart disease, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Records revealed a prior history of elopement as evidenced by a facility investigation report dated December 21, 2022 which revealed that Resident # 1 had eloped from the facility on December 16, 2022. The investigation further revealed that Resident # 1 was found not to be in his room during medication pass, and was later located approximately 11 miles from facility heading to his home to be with his wife who was sick. Review of the care plan revealed no evidence of a problem/goal related to the elopement that occurred on December 16, 2022. A physician order dated June 4, 2023 revealed that staff were to document if the resident exhibited any wandering behaviors or behavior of leaving the facility. Further review of the order revealed that it was discontinued on February 18, 2026. A behavioral symptoms care plan initiated on January 9, 2024 revealed that Resident #1 demonstrated unsafe travel outside the facility without responsible party or proper authorization. Interventions included to assess, record, report to Medical Doctor risk factors for potential elopement, if resident is seen wandering in potentially unsafe area of situation, redirect to safer area, leave safe and reassess. An annual Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment dated [DATE] revealed that the wander-guard was utilized daily. However, there was no evidence in the care plan that the wander-guard had been placed, or interventions regarding the wander-guard. A physician's order dated December 9, 2025 revealed that the facility may place wander-guard on Resident #1. A progress note dated February 14, 2026 revealed that while the resident's spouse was picking up the resident for a home visit and had requested that the wander-guard be removed permanently. The note relayed that the Nurse Practitioner determined that the resident was safe to have the wander-guard removed. Further review of the resident's care plan related to behavioral symptoms, revealed no evidence that the care plan was updated that the wander-guard had been removed on February 14, 2026. Further review of the physician's order for the wander-guard, revealed that the wander-guard was discontinued on February 18, 2026. A progress note dated March 5, 2026 revealed that at about 1:14 p.m. the receptionist notified staff that Resident # 1 was by the park entrance across the parking lot. The progress note documented noted that the receptionist had eyes on the Resident the entire time. The note revealed that Resident # 1 was sitting by the entrance talking with other residents who congregate there, and that the resident was redirected back into the facility. A progress note dated March 8, 2026 revealed that the spouse was visiting Resident #1 and requested that her husband have an independent travel pass to the park entrance, to allow the resident to interact with peers. A Quarterly MDS assessment dated [DATE] revealed a Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) score of 10, indicating moderate cognitive impairment. The MDS assessment revealed that Resident #1 could operate a motorized wheelchair independently 50 and 150 feet with (continued on next page)		

Any deficiency statement ending with an asterisk (*) denotes a deficiency which the institution may be excused from correcting providing it is determined that other safeguards provide sufficient protection to the patients. (See instructions.) Except for nursing homes, the findings stated above are disclosable 90 days following the date of survey whether or not a plan of correction is provided. For nursing homes, the above findings and plans of correction are disclosable 14 days following the date these documents are made available to the facility. If deficiencies are cited, an approved plan of correction is requisite to continued program participation.

LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE	TITLE	(X6) DATE
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The statement did not indicate if the Social Worker Supervisor tried to stop the resident and help the resident to get to a safe place per the care plan, or notified anyone about the resident when he arrived at the facility. The care plan focus related to behavioral symptoms, was edited on May 1, 2026 with updated interventions that included applying a wander-guard to reduce risk of elopement, and to check device for proper functioning. An interview was conducted with the spouse of Resident # 1 on May 5, 2026 at 10:48 a.m., who stated that the facility had notified her sometime between 10:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. that Resident # 1 was missing. The spouse stated that she got in her car to drive towards the facility, she realized she could track his phone, and that she was able to track his phone to their house about 24 miles from the facility. The resident's spouse also stated that when she arrived at her home the resident was there waiting for her. The spouse further stated that Resident #1 may have mixed up the days of the week, that she usually comes on Saturday, and the Resident thought May 1, 2026 was a Saturday and not a Friday, so he got worried about her and went home. The spouse stated at first Resident # 1 did not want to go back to the facility but she was able to convince him and they drove back. The spouse stated the resident did not appear injured and was proud of himself for being able to travel home. The spouse stated that a couple weeks ago they had pushed for the wander-guard to be removed and for an independent pass to the park entrance to see friends. An interview was conducted on May 5, 2025 at 12:09 p.m. with the Recreational Therapist (Staff #49), who stated that when residents want to get an independent pass the Recreational Therapy team will work with residents 1:1 taking them for walks through the park. Once the IDT team and doctor feel confident that the resident will be safe for an independent pass, they get a flag to place on their wheelchairs which alert staff driving in the neighborhood if they see a resident with a red flag, that they have an independent pass. The Recreational Therapist stated that they worked with Resident # 1 and watched how the resident maneuvered the wheelchair through the park. The Recreational Therapist also stated that the resident did great with his wheelchair, and that the resident only got hung up off the sidewalk once but was able to maneuver back onto the sidewalk. The Recreational Therapist further stated that with each walk he would stay back and let the resident be more independent, and that he felt confident that the resident could handle the small trip to and from the park entrance. The Recreational Therapist stated that Resident # 1 did not get a flag since he was not allowed past the park entrance at that time and would not be in the neighborhood. An interview was conducted with Receptionist (Staff #59) on May 5, 2026 at 12:34 p.m., who stated that anytime someone leaves the facility they sign the log book and document the time they left. The receptionist stated that Resident # 1 usually stayed out in the front of the building or by the entrance to the park to talk with the other residents. The receptionist stated that on May 1, 2026 at 8:10 a.m. Resident # 1 was in hurry to sign out not saying anything and he wheeled out to the front portico where she last saw him. The receptionist further stated that when she was getting ready to go on break at 9:15 a.m. she went out front to the portico to put eyes on the residents and that is when she noticed that Resident # 1 was not in the portico or the entrance to the park. The receptionist stated that she called the nurses station to verify that the resident had not returned and staff denied that the resident was upstairs. She stated she called a Code Pink indicating to staff there is a missing resident. The receptionist stated that during a Code Pink staff come to the front desk and get a copy of the resident's picture and are assigned an area in the neighborhood to look. The receptionist stated that she was alerted by management that the (continued on next page)		

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F 0689 Level of Harm - Minimal harm or potential for actual harm Residents Affected - Few	resident's spouse found him at their home and was bringing the resident back to the facility. An interview was conducted on May 5, 2025 with Social Services Director (Staff # 78), who stated that he was familiar with Resident # 1's history with elopements in the past and he stated that he was aware of the discussions during the morning meetings about allowing the resident to go across the parking lot to be with the other residents who sit and congregate while they smoke. The Social Services Director stated that on May 1, 2025 he was driving toward the facility parking lot around 8:15 a.m. and noticed Resident #1 driving his electric wheelchair south. The Social Services Director stated that he did not see a flag on the Resident's wheelchair and did not make the connection that he was eloping at that time. The Social Services Director further stated he was familiar with Resident # 1's care plan, and acknowledged that it is the social services team's responsibility to update/monitor some of the interventions. The Social Services Director reviewed the care planned interventions for Resident # 1 related to wandering behaviors, and stated that the interventions included that if the resident was seen wandering in a potentially unsafe area or situation, staff are to redirect to safer area, and reassess. The Social Services Director stated that he was aware of the intervention and that the social services team were part of the disciplines listed as responsible for the intervention. The Social Services Director stated that he should have stopped and helped Resident # 1 or told staff when he got into the facility. The Social Services Director stated the concern for not assisting the resident or notifying staff could have resulted in the resident getting hurt by the heat or by a car. An interview was conducted on May 5, 2025 at 1:34 p.m. with Administrator (Staff #83) who stated that independent travel is utilized when a resident wants to go out of the facility into the neighborhood and it is determined that the resident is capable and will be safe during the travel. The Administrator stated that Resident #1 had been approved for independent travel but just to the park entrance and no further. The Administrator also stated that limiting independent travel to one location is impossible to enforce without staff following the resident to that particular location. The Administrator further stated that going forward the facility will only do full independent travel and not partial travel to specific locations. The Administrator stated that her concerns about the incident included that Resident # 1 got a limited independent pass, no one watched him while he was outside for over an hour, and when staff saw Resident # 1 without a flag leaving the facility, the resident was not stopped or taken to safety, and staff were not notified. The Administrator stated that this could have led to serious injury to Resident # 1. A policy and procedure titled Emergency Procedure missing resident, revised 2018, revealed that Resident's at risk for wandering and or elopement will be monitored, and staff will take necessary precautions to ensure their safety. A policy titled Care Plans, Comprehensive Person-Centered, Revised 2024, revealed that a comprehensive, person-centered care plan that includes measurable objectives and timetables to meet the resident's physical, psychosocial and functional needs is developed and implemented for each resident.		