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**FILED**  
STATE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE  
DEC 8 2010  
*Dorcias K. O'Neal*  
**DORCAS K. O'NEAL**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

By: Tobey Palan, Deputy Attorney General  
Tel. (973) 648-3808

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE

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IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF : Administrative Action  
: :  
DEIDRE FARAHANI :  
License No. 43ZA00513700 : **CONSENT ORDER**  
: :  
TO PRACTICE RESPIRATORY CARE :  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :  

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This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Respiratory Care (Board) on or about September 24, 2010, upon receipt of information from Hackensack University Medical Center that Deidre Farahani, (Respondent), who was employed as a respiratory therapist was terminated for discontinuation of mechanical ventilator support on a patient without a physician's order. The patient subsequently died. On October 28, 2010, an interim consent order was filed with the Board whereby Respondent surrendered her license and agreed to cease and desist from the practice of respiratory care in New Jersey until further order of the Board. Respondent appeared before the Board for an investigative

inquiry into this matter on November 9, 2010, with her counsel, Susan Karlovich, Esq. Respondent testified that she turned off patient J.D.'s ventilator without confirming whether a physician's order was issued directing the discontinuance of mechanical ventilator support. Respondent stated that she believed that patient J.D. was deceased prior to turning off the ventilator.

The Board finds Respondent's admissions to discontinuing patient J.D.'s mechanical ventilator support without a physician's order is an act of gross negligence pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c), thus providing grounds for disciplinary action. The Board reviewed information that Respondent was not the direct cause of patient J.D.'s demise given the grave nature of her condition. The Board further found Respondent to be forthcoming and remorseful for her actions. The parties having agreed and consented to the resolution of this matter without the necessity of the Board instituting formal proceedings; the Board finding that the within Order is adequately protective of the public and that good cause exists for its entry; and the Board finding the within disposition to be adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare;

IT IS ON THIS 8th DAY OF December, 2010,  
ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice respiratory care in New Jersey is suspended for two years, the first six months to be served as an active suspension and the remaining eighteen months of suspension to be stayed and served as a period of probation. Respondent shall receive

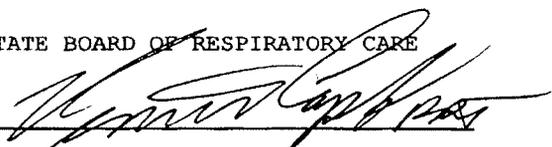
credit on the active period of suspension retroactive to October 28, 2010, the date that Respondent ceased practicing respiratory care pursuant to the interim order filed with the Board.

2. Respondent shall continue to cease and desist from the practice of respiratory care during the period of active suspension and until further order of the Board.

3. Prior to consideration of any application for reinstatement of Respondent's license to practice respiratory care, Respondent shall appear before a Committee of the Board where the burden shall be on Respondent to prove she is fit and competent to practice respiratory care; she shall produce a psychological evaluation by a psychiatrist/psychologist pre-approved by the Board and comply with any recommendations of the psychiatrist/psychologist to the Board's satisfaction; and complete all required continuing education credits and demonstrate that she has successfully completed an additional six continuing education credits in patient assessment and three credits in patient safety.

STATE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Kenneth Capek  
Board President

I have read and understood  
the within Order and agree  
to be bound by its terms.  
Consent is hereby given to  
the Board to enter this Order.



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Deidre Farahani

I consent to the entry of this  
Order as to form.

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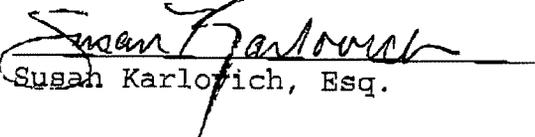
Susan Karlovich, Esq.

I have read and understood  
the within Order and agree  
to be bound by its terms.  
Consent is hereby given to  
the Board to enter this Order.

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Deidre Farahani

I consent to the entry of this  
Order as to form.

  
Susan Karlovich, Esq.