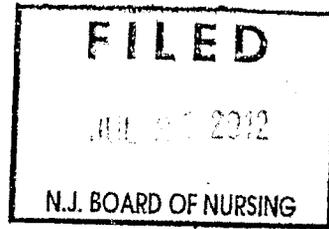


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :
: Administrative Action
PAULINE HUGHES, L.P.N. :
License #NP 03767800 : CONSENT ORDER
NP 03767800 :
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was reopened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of Pauline Hughes's ("Respondent") application to reinstate her license as a Licensed Practical Nurse. By Consent Order dated February 28, 2012, the Board had granted Respondent's petition to apply for reinstatement of her license to practice nursing in New Jersey. The Consent Order directed that Respondent's license would be reinstated upon review and approval of a completed application for reinstatement along with the requisite fees, information and the required Criminal History Background Check and satisfaction of the requirements of the February 28, 2012 Order. Respondent

submitted an application and underwent the criminal history background check. The criminal history background check revealed the following arrests and convictions:

(1) On or about August 29, 1972 Respondent was arrested by the Little Egg Harbor Township Police. On June 1, 1973, Respondent was convicted of violating N.J.S.A. 2A:170-26 (Simple Assault);

(2) On or about October 26, 1977 Respondent was arrested by the Little Egg Harbor Township Police and charged with violating N.J.S.A. 2A:96-4 (Contribute to Delinquency of a Minor). The charges were dismissed on January 30, 1978;

(3) On or about April 10, 1981 Respondent was arrested by the Ocean County Sheriff's Office and charged with violating N.J.S.A. 2C:20-4 (Fraud). The final disposition of this arrest was not revealed by the criminal history background check.

Respondent failed to disclose these three arrests and one conviction on her application for reinstatement, answering "No" to question (3) on the application to reinstate and "No" to question (6) on the certification and authorization form for a criminal history background check, which questions ask whether the applicant had ever been arrested or convicted.

Respondent maintains that she did not intentionally withhold these prior arrests. Instead, Respondent maintains that she "never thought of these incidents as arrests and until

[their flagging as part of the criminal history background check] had blocked them out of [her] memory considering the length of time that had passed." Nevertheless, questions 3 and 6 on the application and certification and authorization for the criminal history background check are designed to flush out the existence of any arrests or convictions. Respondent provided false answers to questions 3 and 6.

The Board finds that the Respondent's use of dishonesty, deception or misrepresentation in not disclosing her arrests and conviction on her application form and criminal history background check constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

The Board having reviewed this matter, and having considered the nature of the above conduct, and the parties desiring to resolve this matter, and the Board having determined that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 31ST day of July 2012,
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent's application to reinstate her lapsed LPN license shall be granted upon payment of a civil penalty hereby imposed in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for failing to disclose her arrests and conviction on her application and certification and authorization for a criminal history background check. Payment shall be in the form of a

certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey, and shall be submitted contemporaneously with this signed Order.

2. Respondent shall comply with all the terms and provisions of the Consent Order filed on February 28, 2012 which by reference is made part of this Consent Order.

3. The Respondent shall obey all the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of nursing in the State or jurisdiction in which she practices nursing.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: _____

Patricia Murphy
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms.

Pauline Hughes L.P.N.
Pauline Hughes, L.P.N.

Date: 7/25/12