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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :	Administrative Action
CHERYL A. LONG, L.P.N. :	
LICENSE # NP 05669600 :	CONSENT ORDER
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	

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This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (" Board") upon receipt of information that respondent had been arrested on January 26, 2011 and charged with obtaining

a controlled dangerous substance by fraud, and obtaining 180 pills of oxycodone by means of a fraudulent prescription. Respondent has admitted to the conduct, and admits to having exercised poor judgment. Respondent indicated that she engaged in this conduct as a "desperate measure" because of dire financial circumstances. Respondent assures the Board that she has been cooperating with the Medford Police Department in this matter, and has expressed regret for her behavior.

The Board finds that respondent's conduct, as set forth above, relates adversely to nursing within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f).

The Board finding that entry of the within order at this juncture is appropriate, and having determined that under the circumstances a mental health and substance abuse evaluation and a period of monitoring will sufficiently protect the public health, safety and welfare, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this *22<sup>nd</sup>* day of *August*, 2012

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for respondent's violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f).
2. Respondent shall enroll in the Recovery and Monitoring

Program of New Jersey (RAMP) and agree to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation to be conducted by a qualified mental health evaluator as recommended by RAMP, within 30 days of enrollment, unless RAMP authorizes a later date. The evaluator shall prepare a report which shall include an evaluation of respondent's mental health condition and substance use history (if any), and whether respondent is able to safely and competently practice nursing, and said report shall include recommendations for further treatment and monitoring, if applicable, including the need for random urine screens or limitations of practice.

3. Respondent shall follow the recommendations (if any) by RAMP and/or the evaluator for further treatment and/or more lengthy enrollment in RAMP. Subsequent to evaluation, respondent shall limit her nursing practice, if recommended by RAMP, which may include respondent placing her license in inactive status.

4. Respondent shall enroll in, and comply with all of the terms and conditions of, participation in the RAMP program for a minimum of 90 days. Respondent shall submit a copy of her initial application and contract with RAMP within 30 days of the effective date of this Order. Respondent shall cause RAMP to inform the Board in writing if respondent is non-compliant with, or is terminated from or resigns from further participation in the program together with the reason for and complete

documentation of the non-compliance, termination and/or resignation. Notification of the Board shall be within 24 hours of determination of non-compliance, termination or resignation, or as soon thereafter as is practicable. Respondent shall provide RAMP with a complete copy of the within Order.

5. Respondent shall provide a release to RAMP allowing RAMP to provide pertinent reports, records and other information pertaining to respondent to the Board. Respondent's signature on this order signifies respondent's waiver of any right to confidentiality with respect to these matters between respondent, RAMP and the Board, and respondent's agreement that the Board may utilize any such reports, records and other information it receives from RAMP in any proceeding regarding respondent's licensure and that the Board may release any pertinent information in its possession to RAMP.

6. During respondent's period of RAMP enrollment, respondent shall refrain from the use of any and all potentially addictive substances except as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner who is made aware of Respondent's substance abuse history, if there is such a history. Respondent shall report any such use to the RAMP in writing within five days of receiving such a prescription together with the name of the prescribing health care practitioner, the name of the drug, the quantity, frequency, expected length of use and reason for its

use.

7. While enrolled in RAMP, respondent shall attend regular 12 step support group meetings or the equivalent, and nurse peer support group meetings, as required by RAMP. She shall attend individual counseling and psychiatric treatment until successful discharge, if required by RAMP.

8. While enrolled in RAMP, respondent shall submit to random observed urine testing as required by RAMP. Respondent's failure to submit to or provide a urine sample when requested shall be deemed to be a violation of the terms of this Order. All random alcohol and drug screens shall be negative for the presence of alcohol or drugs, unless the drugs detected by screening were properly taken pursuant to a valid prescription from a health care practitioner aware of respondent's substance abuse history, if applicable.

9. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs of the comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation, urine screens, the enrollment/participation fees associated with RAMP and/or further treatment and monitoring, if applicable.

10. Respondent shall obey all of 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 he practices nursing. Respondent shall report to the Board within ten (10)

days any arrest, indictment or conviction for any crime or disorderly persons offense.

11. Respondent shall remain in RAMP until successful completion of or release from the program. Until respondent has successfully completed RAMP or been released from the program, respondent may not modify the conditions of this agreement without submitting a written petition to the Board providing a detailed explanation of the basis for the modification request, and then entering into a new, modified agreement with the Board.

12. Any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Board shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that respondent has violated any term of this Order, respondent's license may be automatically suspended by the Board. Respondent, upon notice, may request a hearing to contest the entry of such an order. At any such hearing the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding respondent was materially false. In addition, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

13. The Board reserves the right, in the event that respondent's 2011 arrest results in a criminal conviction, to revisit this matter, ascertain whether respondent's conduct was more egregious than is presently apparent from respondent's depiction of her role in the criminal enterprise, and impose

additional and/or more restrictive sanctions regarding  
respondent's license.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

*Patricia Murphy PhD APN*

By:

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Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C  
Board President

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

*Cheryl A. Long*  
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Cheryl A Long