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FILED
AUG 20 2013
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

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF : Administrative Action
: :
JOELINA MARY LOPEZ, R.N. : :
LICENSE # NR 12620700 : : CONSENT ORDER
: : IN RESOLUTION OF
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE : : PROVISIONAL ORDER OF
STATE OF NEW JERSEY : : DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (" Board") upon the filing of a Provisional Order of Discipline on May 29, 2013. The Provisional Order issued when the Board learned that a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order had been adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs of the State of California on February 22, 2011, by the terms of which respondent agreed to the revocation of her nursing license, with the revocation to be stayed and with respondent to be placed on probation for a period of three years,

subject to certain terms and conditions. The basis for the California action was respondent's conviction on charges of driving with a blood alcohol level of .14%, following a traffic accident caused by respondent.

Respondent failed to immediately notify the New Jersey Board of the California action, as required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.9, and on the renewal application for her New Jersey nursing license on April 17, 2012, respondent inaccurately indicated that no action had been taken against her professional license by any other licensing authority, which the Board now finds to constitute misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

The parties desiring to resolve this matter by agreement without further proceedings, and the Board finding that entry of the within order in resolution of the Provisional Order of Discipline filed on May 29, 2013 is appropriate, and that the terms of this order provide sufficient protection of the public health, safety and welfare, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 20th day of August, 2013

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for a period of one year, based ~~on the California disciplinary action, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-~~
21(g), with the suspension to be stayed and served as a period of

probation.

2. A public reprimand is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and (h) and N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.9.

3. A \$250.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and (h) and N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.9.

4. Respondent shall agree to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation to be conducted by a qualified mental health evaluator as recommended by the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP) within 30 days of enrollment in RAMP, 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.

5. 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.

~~6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. While enrolled in RAMP, respondent shall submit to random observed urine testing or hair follicle 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.

11. Respondent shall work only in settings approved by RAMP, and shall have access to or responsibility for administering, dispensing or ordering potentially addictive

substances in the course of her employment, only if approved by RAMP. She shall not work more than 12 hours (excluding any additional time needed to meet documentation requirements) within any 24 hour period nor more than 40 hours per week (excluding any additional time needed to meet documentation requirements), unless approved by RAMP.

12. Respondent shall provide to RAMP any and all reports required pursuant to her RAMP contract, including reports from her employer or self-assessment reports.

13. Respondent shall notify RAMP within 10 days of any change of address, or any termination, resignation or leave of absence from any place of nursing employment.

13. 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.

14. 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.~~

15. 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.

16. 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.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

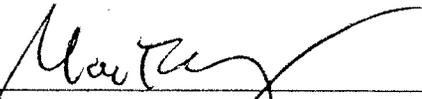
By: Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C
Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C
Board President

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

Joelina Mary Lopez
Joelina Mary Lopez

DATED: 8/13/13

Consent as to form and entry:



Marc E. Sapin, Esq.
Attorney for respondent

DATED: 8/13/13