

FILED
 JUN 06 2014
 N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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

 IN THE MATTER OF THE
 LICENSE OF

 VINCENT BERNOTAS, R.N.
 License # NR 10677800

 TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
 OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about October 23, 2013, an inquiry was sent to respondent by certified and regular mail at his address of record requesting information and document relating to a medical malpractice judgment and to respondent's nursing practice, including documentation, in the form of certificates of completion, of all continuing education courses completed in satisfaction of the continuing education obligation for the 2010-2012 renewal period.

3. The certified mailing was signed for. The regular mailing was not returned. No response has been returned to date.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's inquiry constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on March 10, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license, and imposing a \$500.00 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record reflects that the certified mailing of the Provisional Order was signed for. The regular mailing was not returned. The Board considered this matter, and found that service had been effected, as the mailings had been sent to respondent's address of record with the Board. The Board further found that as no discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings and conclusions of the Provisional Order, additional proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 6th day of June, 2014,

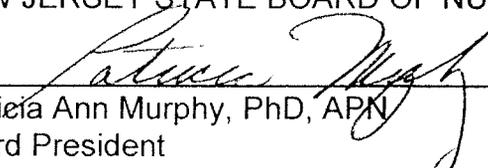
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's New Jersey nursing license is hereby suspended until he has fully responded to the Board's inquiry..

2. A \$500.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2, -1.3. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order, made payable to the State of New Jersey, and shall be forwarded to the attention of George Hebert, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07101, within 21 days of the filing of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:



Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APRN
Board President