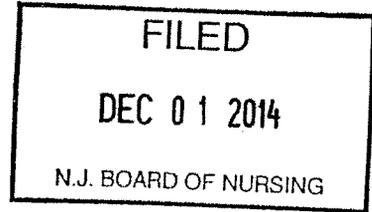


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :
: Administrative Action
MARGARET WALKER, L.P.N. :
: :
LICENSE # 26NP01498800 : :
: :
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :
:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information from Merion Gardens Assisted Living Center and from the Ombudsman's Office alleging that respondent, while employed at Merion Gardens in 2012, conducted herself inappropriately with a resident. It was alleged that respondent spent an inordinate amount of time with resident K.A., in that when respondent passed medication in the evening to residents she would supposedly remain in K.A.'s room,

eating and drinking and watching television. It was also alleged that respondent would keep her own soda and supplies in K.A.'s refrigerator, and would greet K.A. by kissing her on the forehead or on the cheek. Respondent denies that she spent an excessive amount of time in K.A.'s room and denies the remaining allegations, although she admits to having once kissed K.A. on the cheek.

The Board finds that while initially K.A. and respondent had a friendly relationship, respondent failed to realize that ultimately K.A. became uncomfortable with her interactions with respondent, and that K.A. felt she was treated differently than other residents. The Board further finds that respondent's conduct amounted to a violation of professional boundaries and thus constituted professional misconduct within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

The parties desiring to resolve this matter without admissions and without further proceedings, and the Board finding that the within Order is sufficiently proective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS, on this 1st day of December, 2014

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed upon respondent for the violation of N.J.S.A 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent shall document completion of a Board-approved continuing education course in boundaries. As respondent has already preemptively completed such a Board-approved course, respondent need take no further action in this regard.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy PLD APRN

Patricia Murphy, Phd, APRN
President

I have read and understood
the above Order and agree
to be Bound by its terms.

Margaret Walker, LPN
Margaret Walker, L.P.N.

Consent as to form and entry:

Kathleen M. Gialanella
Kathleen M. Gialanella, Esq.
Attorney for respondent