

3. The Nurse's Shift Note & Time Record filled out by Respondent included details about transportation to and from school and conduct while at school.

4. Respondent indicated that she had no documentation of completion of continuing education completed for the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 renewal period.

5. Respondent indicated on her 2013 renewal application that she would have completed all required continuing education for the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 renewal period by May 31, 2013.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's documentation on her records for March 1, 2013 that she accompanied patient R.T. to school, when R.T. was actually absent from school on that date, and documentation about transportation to and from school indicates that Respondent engaged in misrepresentation and/or deceptive conduct on these records in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

Respondent's inability to document required continuing education for the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 renewal period constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's indication on her 2013 renewal application that she would have timely completed all required continuing education for the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 renewal period by May 31, 2013 constitutes misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a reprimand, a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty, and a

suspension was entered on April 7, 2014. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by 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.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline by providing documentation of completion of thirty hours of continuing education, belatedly completed in May 2014, which may be applied to cure the deficiency of the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 biennial period. Additionally, Respondent provided a certificate of completion of a Board-approved course in nursing ethics.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as Respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions of law. Inasmuch as Respondent cured the deficiency in her continuing education, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to timely complete the continuing education warrants imposition of a \$250 civil penalty. Likewise, the Board determined that the reprimand was still warranted for Respondent's use of deception, dishonesty, and misrepresentation in her nursing notes and on her renewal application.

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

ORDERED that:

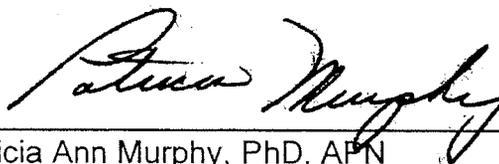
1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed upon Respondent for her violations of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

2. A \$250.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for Respondent's failure to timely complete continuing education requirements for the June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013 renewal period in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to George Hebert, Executive Director, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

3. Continuing education completed after May 31, 2013 and applied to cure the deficiency of a previous period shall not be used to satisfy the requirements of the current biennial period. Respondent shall complete an additional 30 hours of continuing education prior to May 31, 2015.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:



Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President