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

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF : Administrative Action
: :
MELISSA S. OSMUNDSEN, RN :
License # 26NR12696200 : INTERIM CONSENT ORDER
: OF VOLUNTARY
: SURRENDER OF LICENSE
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 which revealed that Melissa S. Osmundsen, RN ("Respondent") was terminated from her place of nursing employment in February 2015 due to violation of hospital policy regarding documentation of Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS), failure to medicate patient, falsely documenting that medication had been administered, and failing to follow hospital policy regarding wasting of medication. In March 2015, the hospital learned of the existence of a video recording of an

exchange between Respondent and a psychiatric crisis patient she cared for at the hospital as a nurse. The video recording had allegedly been posted to social media.

The allegations regarding the video recording, if proven, would demonstrate that Respondent engaged in professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) which provides a basis for disciplinary action against Respondent's license. Additionally, the basis for Respondent's termination from employment, if proven, would demonstrate that Respondent engaged in repeated acts of incompetence pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(d) and the use or employment of misrepresentation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

Lastly, the basis for the termination relating to CDS provides indicia of diversion which warrants testing, monitoring, and evaluation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22 (f) to evaluate whether continued practice may jeopardize the safety and welfare of the public, and treatment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(e) to ensure that Respondent can properly discharge nursing functions.

It appearing that Respondent agrees to voluntarily enter into an interim agreement without making admissions and without prejudice to her ability to defend any action brought based on the above allegations, and the Board finding the within

disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare; and other good cause having been shown;

IT IS, THEREFORE, ON THIS 28th DAY OF May, 2015,
ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent hereby voluntarily surrenders her license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey, to be deemed a temporary suspension, until Respondent demonstrates that she is fit and competent to practice, the Board's designated intervention program (the Recovery and Monitoring Program) supports her return to active practice, and until further Order of the Board. Respondent shall, contemporaneously with the signing of this Order, forward her nursing license, both wallet and wall versions, to Barbara J.K. Lopez, DAG, P.O. Box 45029, Newark, New Jersey 07101, on behalf of the Board of Nursing.

2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from holding herself out as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of New Jersey and shall refrain from the practice of nursing in the State of New Jersey pending further Order of the Board.

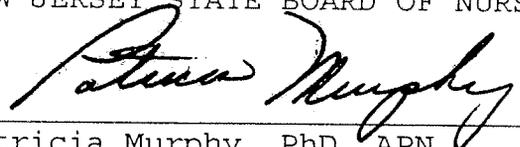
3. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed an admission of liability on the part of Respondent.

4. The entry of the within Order is without prejudice to

the further investigation and/or prosecution of any violations by Respondent of any statutes or regulations governing nursing practice in the State of New Jersey or any other violations of law, by the Board, the Attorney General, or any other regulatory or law enforcement agency, including, but not limited to, any pending matters under investigation.

5. Nothing herein shall preclude the Board from initiating further disciplinary action based upon the conduct relating to Respondent as alleged above. Respondent shall appear before the Board prior to any reinstatement and the Board may impose discipline or restrictions at the time of Respondent's petition for reinstatement.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: 
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President

I have read and understand the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms. I consent to the entry of this Order.


Melissa S. Osmundsen
License # 26NR12696200