

JOHN J. HOFFMAN  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 45029  
Newark, New Jersey 07101  
Attorney for the State Board of Nursing

By: Susan Carboni  
Deputy Attorney General  
(973) 648-2894

PROVISIONAL  
ORDER OF DISCIPLINE  
**FILED**  
AUG 21 2015  
N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

FINAL  
ORDER OF DISCIPLINE  
**FILED**  
NOV 16 2015  
N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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  
:   
:  PROVISIONAL ORDER  
: OF DISCIPLINE  
:   
CASSANDRA RUIZ, L.P.N. :   
License # 26NP 06911900 :  FINAL ORDER  
: OF DISCIPLINE  
: (Finalized by default  
: on Nov. 16, 2015)  
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 the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

2. On or about January 25, 2015 through January 26, 2015, respondent was scheduled by her employer, an entity called Newborn Nurses, to provide home care to patient V.S. (Exhibit A)

3. Respondent claimed that she did not provide this care because she had a family emergency on that date. However, respondent submitted time sheets for payment for work performed at that time and on those dates. Respondent maintains that the submission was done in error, and that she forgot that she had not worked at the relevant dates and times. (Exhibit A; Exhibit B)

4. Respondent also submitted assessment forms for January 25 and January 26, 2015, purporting to document vital signs and the patient's condition, although respondent was not present in V.S.'s home and did not take vital signs, nor did she observe the patient's condition. Respondent claims she documented what she thought she knew, forgetting that she had not been to the home. ( Exhibit A; Exhibit B)

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's submission of documentation of patient visits and assessments which never occurred constitutes deceptive conduct and falsification within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2015,  
ORDERED that upon the filing of a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE in  
this matter:

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

2. Respondent shall, within three months of the filing of a Final Order of Discipline in this matter, provide the Board with documentation of successful completion of a nursing ethics course, pre-approved by the Board, which may not be utilized to satisfy respondent's ordinary continuing education obligation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3.

3. The within order shall be subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following entry hereof unless Respondent requests a modification or dismissal of the above stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by:

a) Submitting a written request for modification or dismissal to Leslie Burgos-Bonilla, State Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

b) Setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed.

c) Submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor or offered in mitigation of penalty.

4. Any submissions will be reviewed by the Board and the Board will thereafter determine whether further proceedings are necessary. If no material discrepancies are raised through a supplemental submission during the thirty-day period, or if the Board is not persuaded that the submitted materials merit further consideration, a Final Order of Discipline will be entered.

5. In the event that Respondent's submissions establish a need for further proceedings, including, but not limited to an evidentiary hearing, Respondent shall be notified with regard thereto. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is ordered, the preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law contained herein may serve as notice of the factual and legal allegations in such proceeding. Further, in the event a hearing is held and upon review of the record, the Board shall not be limited to the findings, conclusions and sanctions stated herein.

6. In the event that the Board receives no written submission from Respondent within 30 days following filing of this Provisional Order of Discipline, without further Board review, the Provisional Order of Discipline shall automatically become the Final Order of Discipline. The box for Final Order of Discipline shall be checked, the Final Order of Discipline shall be filed, and copies shall be mailed to Respondent. Thereafter, Respondent's failure to comply with any sanction or penalty imposed by this Order shall be considered a violation of a Board Order in contravention of

N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (e) and (h) and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and may  
subject Respondent to additional sanction and/or penalty.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

*Patricia Murphy PhD APN*

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President