

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
	:	
	:	
CHANEL S. WILLIAMS, L.P.N.	:	
License # 26NP 06343800	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
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. Chanel S. Williams ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about February 2, 2015, a letter of inquiry issued on behalf of the Board, asking Respondent for information and documentation concerning an arrest on December 28, 2014 on

charges of hindering apprehension, as well as asking about her nursing practice and for documentation of nursing continuing education. The letter was sent to Respondent's address of record by certified and regular mail. The receipt of the certified mailing was signed upon delivery. The regular mailing was not returned. The Board received no response.

3. Respondent indicated on her 2014 renewal application that she would complete required continuing education for the June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014 licensing cycle by May 31, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

Respondent's failure to provide documentation of required continuing education is deemed to constitute a failure to timely complete nursing continuing education in 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 2014 renewal application that she would have completed all required nursing continuing education for the June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014 licensing cycle is deemed to constitute 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 suspension, reprimand, and seven hundred and fifty dollar (\$750) civil penalty was entered on June 29, 2015. 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 the information and documentation originally requested in the Board's letter of inquiry. Respondent offered no explanation as to why she did not respond to the Board's letter of inquiry when she initially received it. Regarding the criminal matter, Respondent provided information showing that the charges were amended and she paid fines and costs totalling \$88.

Regarding continuing education, on February 2, 2015, the Board had asked Respondent to provide proof of completion of

continuing education within the last three years, which would have included the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014. Respondent provided proof of 30 hours of continuing education completed on June 4, 2014, just four days after the renewal period ended. The Board finds that Respondent demonstrated a good faith effort in attempting to comply with the continuing education requirements and that Respondent intended for those 30 hours to apply towards the June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014 biennial period and not the June 1, 2014 - May 31, 2016 biennial period.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary. The Board was persuaded that the submitted materials merited modification of the Order. Inasmuch as Respondent provided the information originally requested and demonstrated timely completion of continuing education, to the satisfaction of the Board, the Board determined that the suspension, reprimand, and two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty were no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to respond to the original inquiry, thereby necessitating the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, and review of Respondent's subsequent reply months later, warrants imposition of a five hundred dollar (\$500) civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 10th day of December, 2015,

ORDERED that:

1. A civil penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3. 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 State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, 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 twenty-one (21) 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.

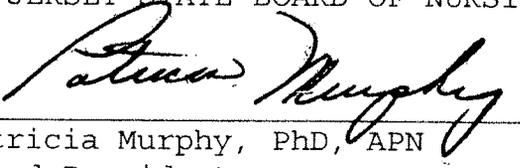
2. The continuing education completed on June 4, 2014 and applied towards the June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014 biennial period shall not also be applied towards the June 1, 2014 - May 31, 2016 biennial period. Respondent shall complete an additional 30 hours of continuing education prior to May 31, 2016.

3. The Board reserves the right to take disciplinary action should the information provided in response to this order or

following subsequent investigation indicate that such action is warranted.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:



Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President