

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
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ELLEN WILSON-DORSEY, APN, RN :
RN # 26NR10929400 : FINAL ORDER
APN # 26NJ00284600 : 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. Ellen Wilson-Dorsey ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse (RN) and an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about April 13, 2015, a Consent Agreement and Order was entered following adoption by the State Board of Nursing of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, indefinitely

suspending Respondent's Pennsylvania nursing license. The basis for this action were the following stipulated facts: that Respondent had been in a motor vehicle accident in June of 2014, and was at the present time unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety because of illness; that prior to the accident, Respondent had prescribed legend drugs to herself and others outside of her prescriptive authority; and that Respondent was medically unable to participate in any formal disciplinary proceedings at the present time.

3. Respondent signed the Pennsylvania Consent Order on January 20, 2015.

4. On her New Jersey license renewal application, submitted on April 15, 2015, Respondent indicated "N" for "no" in response to the question as to whether any action had been taken or was pending against her license by any other licensing authority.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The license suspension in Pennsylvania pursuant to the April 15, 2015 Consent Order subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(g).

Respondent's indication on her 2015 New Jersey renewal application that no action had been taken or was pending by any other licensing authority against her nursing license

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 suspension, reprimand, and two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty was entered on August 1, 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. She indicated that she has not practiced nursing since her accident on June 2, 2014, but that she is looking forward to returning to practice soon. She also indicated that she is participating with the Professional Assistance Program.

Regarding her failure to disclose that another state board had a pending disciplinary action against her, she maintains that she renewed her license on April 14, 2015 and only received

a final filed copy of the Consent Order on April 16, 2015.

The Board does not find Respondent's reply compelling. To the contrary, she clearly had a disciplinary matter pending when she submitted her renewal application. Respondent signed the Consent Order in January 2015 and therefore knew that a discipline action by another state was pending when she renewed her New Jersey nursing license in April 2015. When she renewed her license, she falsely answered that no other state had any disciplinary action pending and she certified that answer by submitting the online renewal.

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. Although Respondent disputed the findings of fact, her rationale simply is not legally or factually accurate.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 8th day of February, 2016,
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's New Jersey APN and RN nursing licenses are hereby suspended until her Pennsylvania nursing license[s] has been reinstated and until she has demonstrated that she is fit and competent to resume nursing practice by undergoing a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation by a Board-approved evaluator.

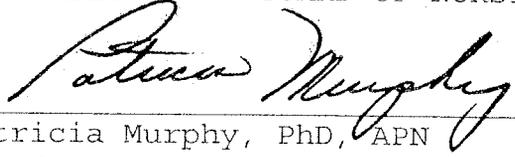
2. A reprimand is hereby imposed upon Respondent for the violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

3. A civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) is hereby imposed for Respondent's violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b). Respondent submitted a money order for \$250 dated September 16, 2015 and the Board will process same as payment of the within civil penalty.

4. Respondent shall refrain from practicing as a nurse in New Jersey and shall not represent herself as an Advanced Practice Nurse or a Registered Professional Nurse until such time as her New Jersey licenses are reinstated. Any practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President