

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING
Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson #1051
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

FILED

APR 01 2015

IN THE MATTER OF JEAN ELLEN BLANCHFIELD

KSBN

License No. ENDORSEMENT APPLICANT

Case No. 14-1335-0

SUMMARY ORDER

NOW ON THIS 1st day of April, 2015, THE ABOVE MATTER COMES BEFORE THE Kansas State Board of Nursing (Board) pursuant to authority granted to the Board by K.S.A. 65-1120. The Board hereby proposed to find facts and take disciplinary action against the licensee's license by way of Summary Order as provided by K.S.A. 77-537.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. This Licensee has an application for endorsement to practice nursing in the state of Kansas. The Board has jurisdiction over the Licensee and the subject matter of this action.
2. Licensee's address of record is 317 South Eart Street, Lake City IA 51449..
3. After an investigation, the Board's investigative committee found reasonable grounds to believe that the Respondent violated the Kansas Nurse Practice Act, K.S.A. 65-1120, and referred this matter for further proceedings.
4. Review of the information gathered by the Board revealed the following upon which this action is based.
 - (a) According to a report, applicant is alleged to have been assigned to work at Smith County Memorial and LTC Smith Center Kansas.
 - (b) Applicant arrived to her assignment confused and disoriented.
 - (c) Applicant was scheduled for 8/11/2014 and did not show up.
 - (d) Hospital staff called applicant with no answer.
 - (e) Staff went to the residence of applicant and she answered the door very disheveled and somewhat confused and disoriented.
 - (f) Applicant contacted the supervisor and told her she had taken over the counter sleeping pill and could not wake up.
 - (g) Applicant was told that she was not safe to take care of patients
 - (h) Applicant came to work at 1820 for a 1800 work schedule.
 - (i) She appeared confused and disoriented.
 - (j) She had two large deep lacerations and was seen at emergency department.

- (k) A UDS was order due to the confusion and results positive for tricyclic antidepressants and PCP.
- (l) Applicant was admitted for observations and her contract was terminated.
- (m) At her home, a knife was found with blood on the floor in the kitchen.
- (n) Family notified and will arrange for psychiatrist consult due to possible suicide attempt.

5. This Licensee violated the Nurse Practice Act by unprofessional conduct by use of illegal drugs as evidence by UDS, failing to follow policies and procedures of medical facility and unsafe to practice due to pattern of practice.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- a. K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(4) unable to practice with skill and safety due to current abuse of drugs or alcohol.
- b. K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(6), unprofessional conduct, by drug diversion K.A.R. 60-3-110(n) in past conduct;
- c. K.S.A. 65-1120 (e) (3) professional incompetence as defined as a pattern of practice or other behavior which demonstrates a manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice nursing

6. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-1120(a), the Kansas State Board of Nursing may deny, revoke, limit or suspend any license, certificate of qualification or authorization to practice nursing as a registered professional nurse , as a licensed practical nurse, as an advanced registered nurse practitioner or as a registered nurse anesthetist that is issued by the board or applied for under authorization, if the Licensee, Licensee or holder of a certificate of qualifications or authorization is found to have violated the Nurse Practice Act.

7. The above fact findings established evidence that the Licensee violated the following provisions of the Nurse Practice Act:

Count 1: K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(4) unable to practice with skill and safety due to current abuse of drugs or alcohol.

Count 2: K.S.A. 65-1120(a)(6), unprofessional conduct, by drug diversion K.A.R. 60-3-110(n) in past conduct;

Count 3: K.S.A. 65-1120 (e) (3) professional incompetence as defined as a pattern of practice or other behavior which demonstrates a manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice nursing

8. The role of the Kansas State Board of Nursing is to protect citizens of Kansas.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Use of illegal drugs affecting the ability of the nurse to practice safely.
2. Drug diversion is a violation of the public trust and places patients at risk.
3. A Pattern of practice indicates that applicant may not be safe.

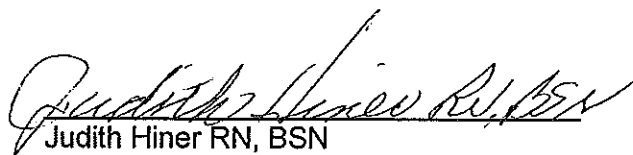
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING THAT

1. **Licensee's endorsement application to practice nursing in the state of Kansas is denied.**
2. **Licensee shall pay \$70.00 costs of this action to the Board within thirty (30) days of the effective day of this Order.**

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537, the decision, which is called a Summary Order, is subject to your request for hearing. If you desire a hearing, you must submit or direct a **written** request for hearing to: Kansas State Board of Nursing, Legal Division, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 1051, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230, (785) 296-4325. **THIS REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ORDER.** If a hearing is not requested in the time and manner stated, this Summary Order becomes effective as a final order, without further notice, upon the expiration of the time for requesting a hearing.

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-531, if the Summary Order is served by mail, three days are added to the time limits set out above.

Judith Hiner RN, BSN
Investigative Committee, Chair




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Investigative Committee, Chair
Kansas State Board of Nursing

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On the 1st day of April, 2015, I deposited a copy of this SUMMARY ORDER with the United States Postal Service, postage pre-paid, addressed to:

Jean Ellen Blanchfield
317 South Earl Street
Lake City IA 51449



Michael R. Fitzgibbons #12287
Assistant Attorney General