

## HEGEIVED

NOV 07 2014

VA BD OF NURSING

### COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C. Director

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov TEL (804) 367- 4400 FAX (804) 527- 4475

November 7, 2014

Joyce A. Rabideau 149 Blackman Corners Road P.O. Box 233 Mooers Forks, NY 12959

RE: License No.: 0001-242175

Dear Ms. Rabideau:

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2409 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, ("Code"), you are hereby given notice that your license to practice as a practical nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia has been mandatorily suspended by the enclosed Order entered November 7, 2014. You are hereby advised that, pursuant to Section 54.1-2409.1 of the Code, any person who practices a profession or occupation after having their license or certificate to do so suspended shall be guilty of a felony. Please return your license to Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director of the Virginia Board of Nursing, at the above address, immediately upon receipt of this letter.

Section 54.1-2409 of the Code further provides that you may apply to the Board of Nursing ("Board") for reinstatement of your license, and shall be entitled to a hearing not later than the next regular meeting of the Board after the expiration of sixty days from the receipt of such reinstatement application. You have the following rights, among others: to be represented by legal counsel, to have witnesses subpoenaed on your behalf, to present documentary evidence and to cross-examine adverse witnesses. The reinstatement of your license shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present of the Board of Nursing.

Should you wish to petition the Board of Nursing for reinstatement of your license, contact Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director, at the above address or (804) 367-4599.

**Certified True Copy** 

Virginia Board of Nursing

Sincerely,

David E. Brown, D.C., Director Department of Health Professions

Enclosures
Case # 1599

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

IN RE:

JOYCE A. RABIDEAU, R.N.

License No.: 0001-242175

**ORDER** 

In accordance with Section 54.1-2409 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, ("Code"), I,

David E. Brown, D.C., Director of the Virginia Department of Health Professions, received and acted

upon evidence that the license of Joyce A. Rabideau, R.N., was suspended by Order of the Vermont

Board of Nursing entered on September 8, 2014. A certified copy of said Order is attached to this Order

and is marked as Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 1.

WHEREFORE, by the authority vested in the Director of the Department of Health Professions

pursuant to Section 54.1-2409 of the Code, it is hereby ORDERED that the license of Joyce A.

Rabideau, R.N., to practice as a professional nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia be, and hereby is,

SUSPENDED.

Upon entry of this Order, the license of Joyce A. Rabideau, R.N., will be recorded as

suspended and no longer current. Should Ms. Rabideau seek reinstatement of her license pursuant to

Section 54.1-2409 of the Code, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the

reinstatement and renewal of her license prior to issuance of her license to resume practice.

Pursuant to Sections 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2 of the Code, the signed original of this Order

shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record and shall be

made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

David E. Brown, D.C., Director

Department of Health Professions

ENTERED:

11/7/14



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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#### CERTIFICATION OF DUPLICATE RECORDS

I, David E. Brown, D.C., Director of the Department of Health Professions, hereby certify that the attached Default Order entered September 8, 2014 regarding Joyce A. Rabideau, R.N., is a true copy of the records received from the Vermont Board of Nursing.

/ Nd?hu	Date:	11/7/14
David E. Brown, D.C.	_	



#### STATE OF VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

In re: Joyce A. Rabideau	}	
License No. 026-33698	}	Docket No. 2013-424(RN)
	}	
Appearances:		
Donato C. T.		

Prosecutor: S. Lauren Hibbert Respondent: Did not appear

Presiding Officer: Larry S. Novins

#### DEFAULT ORDER

The Board of Nursing held a hearing on the above matter on September 8, 2014 at the Office of Professional Regulation Conference Room at the City Center in Montpelier, Vermont. Ms. Rabideau did not attend and was not represented by counsel.

#### **Findings of Fact**

- 1. Ms. Rabideau is licensed as a registered nurse and is therefore subject to the regulatory authority of this Board. 3 V.S.A. §§ 129, 129a, 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a), the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing, and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.
- 2. On June 18, 2014 Ms. Rabideau was sent a Notice of Charges in this matter by certified mail to her last known address. A copy of the Specification of Charges is attached to this Default Order.
- 3. OPR Rule 3.3 requires that an Answer be filed within 20 days of the date on which the notice of charges was mailed by the Director.
- 4. Licensees are required to notify the Board of any change of address within 30 days. 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(14).
- 5. Stamps on the envelope indicate the notice of charges was "unclaimed."
- 6. Ms. Rabideau did not file an answer to the charges.
- 7. On July 21, 2014 notice of the Default Hearing scheduled for this date was mailed to Ms. Rabideau at that same address by certified mail. It, too, was "unclaimed" and marked "Return to Sender, Not Deliverable as Addressed/Unable to Forward."
- 8. Ms. Rabideau has still not answered the charges.
- 9. Upon hearing the Prosecution's presentation and taking notice of its own file, the Board finds Ms. Rabideau to be in Default. The allegations contained in the Specification of Charges are therefore treated as the facts on which the Board's Order is based. OPR Rule 3.4, 3 V.S.A. § 809(d), and 3 V.S.A. § 814(c).

#### Conclusions of Law

Ms. Rabideau has received constructive notice of the charges in this matter as indicated

by the Board's file and the Prosecution's presentation. Because Ms. Rabideau has failed to answer the charges, the factual allegations in the Specification of Charges are treated as if proved. O.P.R. Rule 3.4. Accordingly, the Board finds, in this Default Hearing held pursuant to 3 V.S.A, §809(d), that Ms, Rabideau has engaged in the unprofessional conduct alleged in the Specification of Charges.

#### Order

In accordance with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Ms. Rabideau's license is hereby Suspended Indefinitely, effective as of the date of the hearing. Should Ms. Rabideau apply for reinstatement, the Board at that time will determine whether any conditions can permit her to resume practice while protecting public health and safety.

#### **Appeal Rights**

This is a final administrative determination by the Vermont Board of Nursing.

A party aggrieved by a final decision of a board may appeal this decision by filing a written Notice of Appeal with the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State, 89 Main St., Fl. 3, Montpelier, VT 05620-3402 within 30 days of the entry of this Order.

If an appeal is filed, the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation shall assign the case to an appellate officer. The review shall be conducted on the basis of the record created before the board. In cases of alleged irregularities in procedure before the board, not shown in the record, proof on that issue may be taken by the appellate officer. 3 V.S.A. §§ 129(d) and 130a.

To request a stay of the Board's decision, please refer to the attached stay instructions.

Vermont Board of Nursing

By: Carine Caw Teanine Carr, RN, Chair

Date: September 8, 2014

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

DATE OF ENTRY: 9/8/14

# STATE OF VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:	)	
JOYCE A RABIDEAU	)	DOCKET NO. 2013-424
License No. 026.0033698	•	

#### SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

NOW COMES the State of Vermont and makes the following Charges against the Respondent, Joyce A. Rabindeau:

#### **Board Authority**

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the "Board") has authority to issue warnings or reprimands; suspend, revoke, limit, or condition current licenses; or prevent the renewal of lapsed licenses if, after disciplinary hearing, the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in unprofessional conduct. 3 V.S.A. § 129(a); 3 V.S.A. § 129a; 3 V.S.A. § 814(d); 26 V.S.A. § 1582; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

#### Statement of Facts

- 2. Joyce A. Rabideau (the "The Respondent") of Mooers Forks, NY is a Registered Nurse in the State of Vermont under license number 26.0033698. This license was originally issued on or about July 22, 2006 and expires on or about March 31, 2015.
- 3. At all times relevant, Respondent was working at Northwestern Medical Center (the "facility").
- 4. Respondent diverted four (4) 15 milligram Morphine Sulfate ER tablets from the facility's ICU Omnicell machine on May 17, 2013 and/or May 18, 2013:
  - a. On or about May 7, 2013, a reconciliation count was conducted and there were fourteen (14) 15 milligram Morphine Sulfate ER tablets in the ICU Omnicell machine.
  - b. On or about May 28, 2013, a reconciliation count was conducted and there were ten (10) 15 milligram Morphine Sulfate ER tablet in the ICU Omnicell machine.

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
89 Main Street
3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT
05620-3402

- c. Review of the records showed that Respondent was the only nurse accessing the Morphine Sulfate drawer in the ICU Omnicell machine and she accessed it on May 17, 2013 at 11:56 PM and May 18, 2013 at 1:41 AM. Respondent accessed the machine under two patients names; however, neither were proscribed morphine.
- d. Respondent denied diverting the morphine when questioned by the facility on July 3, 2013.
- e. On April 8, 2014, in a conversation with Investigator Lewis, Respondent admitted that she had diverted the morphine to treat head and neck pain.

#### Charges

- 5. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because the Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of:
  - a. 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(3) (Is unable to practice nursing competently by reason of any cause);
  - b. 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(7) (Engages in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public);
  - c. 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(3) (Failing to comply with provisions of federal or state statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession); and,
  - d. 3 V.S.A. § 129a(b)(1) and (2) (Failure to practice competently by reason of any cause on a single occasion or on multiple occasions may constitute unprofessional conduct, whether actual injury to a client, patient, or customer has occurred. Failure to practice competently includes: (1) performance of unsafe or unacceptable patient or client care; or (2) failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice).

#### Relief Requested

WHEREFORE, the license of Joyce A. Rabindeau should be revoked, suspended, reprimanded, conditioned, or otherwise disciplined.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 12 day of Jove, 2014.

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
89 Main Street
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STATE OF VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE

S. Lauren Hibbert

State Prosecuting Attorney

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