

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION  
BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION  
AND NURSING EDUCATION**

Vs

**CANDACE DEFUSCO, RN (RN37646)**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to Section 5-34-24 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2008

Reenactment, a complaint was filed with the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging Candace DeFusco, RN, Respondent, with violation of Chapter 5-34 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2008 Reenactment.

After consideration by the Investigating Subcommittee of the Board, the following constitutes the Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent.

1. Respondent is a registered nurse licensed to practice nursing in the State of Rhode Island.
2. That the Respondent had positive urine toxicology results for Buprenorphine. She admits to taking illicit Suboxone, which had not been prescribed for her but was offered to her by a friend.
3. That the Respondent's license was on Active Probation with the Board and the aforementioned was in violation of her probation.
4. That the conduct described in paragraph two (2) and three (3) above constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Sections 5-34-24 (4) in that Respondent's actions fail to conform to the standards established by the nursing

profession.

Based upon the foregoing, the Board hereby enters the following Order:

1. That the registered nurse license issued to the Respondent is hereby suspended for 3 years effective January 22, 2010.
2. That at the time Respondent seeks reinstatement of her registered nurse license, she shall submit documentation to the Board evidencing that she is capable and competent to engage in the practice of nursing.
3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect pending further Order of the Board.

Date: January 12, 2010

Paula R. McCarroll  
President, Board of Nurse Registration  
and Nursing Education