STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

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

VS.

CHERYL CURRIER (RN30847)



CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to Section 5-34-24 and 5-34.2-4 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2004 Reenactment, and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (hereinafter "Board"), has investigated a complaint charging Cheryl Currier, RN, Respondent, with a violation of Chapter 5-34 and 5-34.2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2004 Reenactment.

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

- Respondent is a Registered Nurse licensed to practice nursing in the State of Rhode
 Island.
- That at all pertinent time Respondent was employed at St. Joseph Hospital, Fatima Unit,
 North Providence, Rhode Island.
- That on or about October 7, 2005 Respondent is alleged to have diverted medication, including Morphine injectable for her own use.
- 4. That the conduct described in paragraph three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Section 5-34-24 and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.

The parties agree as follows:

- 1. Respondent is a registered nurse and able to conduct business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Rhode Island.
- 2. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- 3. Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of the Board and is subject to the final ratification by the Board. This Consent Order and the contents thereof are not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
- 4. Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
 - b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in her behalf at a hearing;
 - c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;
 - d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein:
 - f) Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g) Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
 - h) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Consent Order;
 - i) Any objection to the fact that the Board reviewing this Consent Order may be the same as the Hearing Committee presiding over this matter should it later be brought to an administrative proceeding;

- j) Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order to the Board.
- 5. This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and accepted by the Board and Respondent's license shall reflect that the status is probationary.
- 6. Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations set forth in paragraph three (3) herein.
- Failure to comply with the Consent Order, once signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
- 8. Respondent agrees to a three (3) year period of probation that will abate for the duration of any period in which Respondent ceases to be employed as a registered nurse.
- That Respondent shall notify the Board within 10 days of receipt of the ratified Consent
 Order of the name and address of her employer.
- That, during the period of probation, Respondent's employer(s) shall submit to the Board reports every three (3) months relating to Respondent's conduct and performance. That it shall be the responsibility of Respondent to request that her employer(s) submit said reports.
- 11. That during the period of probation Respondent shall notify the Board forthwith of any changes in employment, including the name and address of the new employer(s) and the reason for said change.
- 12. Respondent shall continue counseling and/or treatment for drug and/or alcohol abuse with a healthcare professional specializing in substance abuse approved by the Board, and shall continue such counseling and/or treatment programs as the healthcare

professional rendering care deems appropriate including but not limited to, attendance at AA and NA meetings, nursing assistance, and nurse support groups as needed.

13. Respondent waives confidentiality of treatment and will direct the Assistance Program and/or other health care professional rendering treatment to release any progress reports to the Board including, but not limited to, monthly progress reports, and random urine and drug screening reports for the duration of the Respondent's contract with the health care professional.

14. This Consent Order will be transmitted forthwith to the health care professional, which is hereby directed by the Respondent to notify the Board of any breach or termination by the Respondent of treatment.

15. That should Respondent comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing and comply with the terms of this Order during the period of probation Respondent may apply to the Board for an unrestricted license.

16. That should Respondent fail to comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing and/or fail to comply with the terms of this Order, the license as a registered nurse shall be subject to suspension or other appropriate disciplinary action.

Cheryl a Currier 3/18/06 Cheryl Currier, RN

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President, Board of Nurse Registration

and Nursing

Ratified as an order of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education at a meeting held on this 17^{th} day of 900.