

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION
THREE CAPITOL HILL
PROVIDENCE, RI 02908**

In the Matter of:

Leah Normandin, RN 40547,

Respondent.

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File No.: RN-09-022

ORDER OF REVOCATION

The above-entitled matter came before the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (“Board”) pursuant to an Administrative Hearing Notice¹ issued on March 25, 2014 by the Board to Leah Normandin (“Respondent”). The Respondent holds a license (“License”) as a registered nurse in the State of Rhode Island pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-1 *et seq.* A hearing was scheduled for April 14, 2014 at which time the Respondent did not appear at hearing. Pursuant to Section 5.6 of the *Rules and Regulations of the Department of Health Regarding Practices and Procedures Before the Department of Health and Access to Public Records of the Department of Health* (“Hearing Regulation”), service may be made by hand-delivery or first class mail and service is complete upon mailing, even if unclaimed or returned, when sent to the last known address of the party. In this matter, notice was sent by first class and certified mail to the Respondent’s address on record with the Department. Since the Respondent was adequately noticed of hearing, a hearing was held. Additionally, Section 12.9 of the Hearing Regulation provides that a judgment may be entered based on pleadings and/or

¹ See Department of Health’s (“Department”) Exhibit A (Administrative Notice of Hearing).

evidence submitted at hearing by a non-defaulting party. The Board was represented by counsel.

The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-1 *et seq.*, *Rules and Regulations for the Licensing of Nurses and Standards for the Approval of Basic Nursing Education Programs*, and the Hearing Regulation.

Based on the pleadings and the exhibits, in 2010 the Respondent entered into a non-disciplinary contract with the Board requiring her to seek substance abuse treatment. By letter dated March 1, 2013, the Respondent's substance abuse provider informed the Department that the Respondent was not in compliance with her treatment and he could not support her returning to nursing until she documented years of sobriety. The Board's investigating committee proposed a consent order to Respondent but she never signed it. See Board's Exhibits A (pleadings), B (March 2013 letter), and C (2009 evaluation).

Based on the forgoing, the Respondent is in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-24(3) (unfit by reason of habits), (4) addicted to use of habit-forming drugs, and (6)(v) (wilfully disregarded standards of nursing practice and failed to maintain standards established by the nursing profession).

After hearing, the Board unanimously made the following order:

The Respondent's License shall be revoked.

By Order of the Board,


Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD, Chair

Entered this 21 day of April, 2014.

NOTICE OF APPELLATE RIGHTS

PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS § 5-34-28, APPEALS OF DECISIONS ARE GOVERNED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT, R.I. GEN. LAWS § 42-35-1 *et seq.* THIS DECISION CONSTITUTES A FINAL ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS § 42-35-12. PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS § 42-35-15, THIS DECISION MAY BE APPEALED TO THE SUPERIOR COURT SITTING IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS DECISION. SUCH APPEAL, IF TAKEN, MUST BE COMPLETED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW IN SUPERIOR COURT. THE FILING OF THE COMPLAINT DOES NOT ITSELF STAY ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ORDER. THE AGENCY MAY GRANT, OR THE REVIEWING COURT MAY ORDER, A STAY UPON THE APPROPRIATE TERMS.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify on this 27th day of April, 2014 that a copy of the within Order and Notice of Appellate Rights was sent by first class mail, postage prepaid and registered mail, return receipt requested to Ms. Leah Normandin, 165 Callahan School Street, Harrisville, RI 02830 and by hand-delivery to Jane Morgan, Esquire, Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 and Twila McInnis, Director of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education, Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908.


