LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS
131 AIRLINE DRIVE, SUITE 301
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-6266
(504) 838-5791
FAX (504) 838-5279
www.lsbpne.com

July 22, 2016

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
7015 3430 0000 2102 5494

Donna Earley
109 Roosevelt
Lafayette, LA 70501

License # 840704

Dear Ms. Earley:

The Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners has received a report regarding your practice as a licensed practical nurse. The report is concerning multiple incidents that occurred during your employment with Home Health 2000. On 6/28/16, a complaint was filed by a patient's granddaughter that 8 pills of Hydrocodone were missing from a bottle after you saw the patient. The granddaughter indicated that at least 30 pain pills went missing in the last month following your visits. She also reported missing $400.00. On 7/6/16, another LPN was informed by a patient that you made an unannounced visit to her home on Sunday to fill her medications as a favor. You instructed the patient not to tell anyone that you came by to fill her prescriptions. After you left, the patient counted her Percocet pills and noticed that some were missing. On 7/7/16, another patient's daughter reported that you made a visit unannounced on Saturday and attempted to take the patient's Percocet pills. You were observed by the patient's daughter to be under the influence of some type of drug or medication. She reported that you were sweating, talking fast, pacing and unable to be still. Additionally, on 7/7/16, another patient reported that several of his Hydrocodone pills were missing after your visits.

The agency also reported that a complaint was received on 6/6/16 from Iberia General Hospital indicating that you left a needle in a biohazard bag. On the weekend of 6/18-6/19/16, you missed 9 visits after the agency moved around patients to accommodate you. On 6/23/16, it was reported that your car broke down and you made no arrangements to borrow or rent a car to ensure that your patients were cared for. You were counseled for taking 2-3 hours to return calls to the office. On 6/27/16, you failed to attend a team conference meeting. You were terminated on or about 7/8/16.

Louisiana Revised Statutes, 49:961 (C), in pertinent part, provides: "If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to the effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." LSA-R.S. 49:961(C).

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The board has determined that the allegations against you are sufficiently serious to **summarily suspend your LPN license**, in accordance with the above cited authority, and hereby, issues the following Order:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that based on the information and/or record(s) obtained by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners, and a finding "that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action", in accordance with LSA-R.S. 49:961(C), the LPN license of the above named respondent, **Donna Earley**, is hereby summarily suspended, pending proceedings for revocation or other action, in accordance with Louisiana law.

M. Lynn Ansardi, RN

Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners
M. Lynn Ansardi, RN, Executive Director

You must *immediately* cease and desist the practice of practical nursing and return your current practical nursing license to the board office.

The board will schedule your case for the next available formal hearing and will notify you by mail of the date and time. Moreover, the board will continue its investigation of the allegations against you, about which you will be notified by formal complaint, to determine if you are in violation of the following:

2. being guilty of a crime;
3. being unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence, habit or other causes;
4. being habitually intemperate or addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;
8. being guilty of unprofessional conduct;
- **a. failure to practice practical nursing in accordance with the standards normally expected;**
- **b. failure to utilize appropriate judgment in administering nursing practice;**
- **c. failure to exercise technical competence in carrying out nursing care;**
- **e. performing procedures beyond the authorized scope of practical nursing;**
- **g. improper use of drugs, medical supplies, or patients' records;**
- **h. misappropriating personal items of an individual or the agency;**
- **j. intentionally committing any act that adversely affects the physical or psychosocial welfare of the patient;**
- **l. leaving a nursing assignment without properly notifying appropriate personnel;**

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o. being guilty of moral turpitude;

q. using or being under the influence of alcohol, while on duty, and/or while making application for employment, or using or being under the influence of drugs which impair judgment while on duty, or using or being under the influence of illegal drugs whether on or off duty;

t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.

Louisiana Revised Statute, Title 37, Chapter 11. Nurses, Part II. Practical Nurses, Section 969, et. seq.

Furthermore, you should immediately submit to our office a detailed narrative response to the allegations and a history of your employment for the last five years.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS

M. Lynn Ansardi, RN

M. Lynn Ansardi, R.N.
Executive Director

MLA/kp