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

DEFAULT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

The Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners (Board)
v.
Myrna Foster (respondent), LPN, license #740058
2464 Talbot Ave, #616, Thibodaux, LA 70301

On **August 29, 2016**, a formal complaint/notice of hearing (Attachment A) was mailed to the last known address of the respondent. The respondent did not reply to the complaint/notice of hearing, as required by the LAC 46:XLVII. 306.I and therefore the respondent waived the right to a formal hearing. In accordance with the LAC 46:XLVII.306.J, this order is issued by default.

LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

The board's legal authority and jurisdiction, in adjudication proceedings, are provided for in:

1. The Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Title 37, Chapter 11, Part II, Section 961 et seq., as amended; and
2. The Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46, Part XLVII, Subpart 1, Section 101 et seq., as amended; and
3. The Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, Title 49, Chapter 13, Section 950 et seq., as amended.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The respondent was issued a license to practice practical nursing in the state of Louisiana on March 9, 1974

2. The respondent was employed with Progressive Healthcare Providers as an LPN in a group home from 9/12/14 to 11/12/15. On 11/9/15, it was reported that a coworker had witnessed the respondent tying a resident to a chair in the dining room on 9/28/15. It was determined that the respondent had tied the resident to the chair using a bed sheet. This was not authorized by a physician, and was a violation of the facility's medical restraint policy.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the findings of fact, enumerated above, the respondent is in violation of:
1. The Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Title 37, Chapter 11, Part II, Section 969 A. (4)

(c) is unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence habit, or other causes;
(f) is guilty of unprofessional conduct;
(g) has violated any provisions of this Part;

And 978 A. (8) Violate any provisions of this Part and Part B, and

2. The Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46, Part XLVII, Subpart 1, Sections 306 T.

3. being unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence, habit or other causes;
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;
j. intentionally committing any act that adversely affects the physical or psychosocial welfare of the patient;
m. failing to report, through the proper channels, facts known regarding the incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice of any health care provider;
t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.

ORDER

In view of the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the board issues the following order by default:

That the license of the respondent, **Myrna Foster, license #740058** be suspended with the following stipulations:

1. **Return license to the board office:**

   A. The respondent shall return his/her current practical nursing license to the board office within **ten (10) days** of the date of this order.

   B. The respondent shall not practice nursing during the period that his/her license is suspended.

2. **Obey all laws:**

   A. The respondent shall obey all laws/rules governing the practice of practical nursing in this state and obey all federal, state, and local laws.

B. The respondent shall report to the board within **ten (10) days** any misdemeanor and/or felony arrest(s) or conviction(s).

3. **Notify board of change of address/telephone number:**

A. The respondent shall notify the board in writing within **ten (10) days** of any change in personal address or telephone number.

4. **Courses:**

The respondent must take and satisfactorily complete board approved courses in the following areas: **Managing Difficult Patients (minimum 30 contact hours) and Patient Advocacy (minimum 8 contact hours)**. Evidence of completion of the course(s) is due in the board office prior to any reinstatement request.

5. **Fines/Fees:**

A. The respondent is hereby fined **$500.00**, **payable by cashier's check or money order only**, for the violations detailed in the conclusions of law, payable within **90 days** of the date of this order.

B. The respondent must pay any/all fines/fees owed to the board, including a reinstatement fee, if/when applicable. Fines/fees are **payable by cashier's check or money order only**.

6. **Reinstatement requirements:**

A. All stipulations of the suspension must be successfully fulfilled prior to a request for reinstatement.

B. The respondent is to submit a written request for reinstatement to the board office.

Upon favorable review of the reinstatement request, the license of the respondent may then be placed on probation for a minimum period of **one (1) year**. During this probationary period the respondent shall follow **the following stipulations:**

1. **License:**

   A. The license of the respondent will be stamped "**PROBATION**".

2. **Fines/Fees:**

   A. The respondent is to submit a $500.00 annual probation monitoring fee, **payable by cashier's check or money order only**.

   B. The probation monitoring fee is due within **three (3) months** of receiving a probated license, and annually thereafter until the probation is satisfactorily completed.

   C. Failure to pay this fee in the time allotted will result in the immediate suspension of the respondent's practical nursing license.

3. **Employment:**

   A. The respondent shall provide a copy of the entire board order/consent order including the findings of fact and conclusions of law immediately to any/all current employer(s) and at the time of application to any/all prospective employer(s).

      i. If the respondent is already employed as an lpn, the respondent and the current employer shall enter into the board's **Employer's Agreement** (form(s) issued by board). The signed form(s) shall be submitted to the board office within **ten (10) days** of the date of this order.

      ii. Upon obtaining new employment as an lpn, the respondent shall enter into the board's **Employer's Agreement** (form(s) issued by board) with the prospective employer. The signed form(s) shall be submitted to the board office within **ten (10) days** of the date of hire.

   B. All current and prospective employers must agree to allow the respondent's direct supervisor to monitor the respondent while on probation as well as timely submission of evaluations.

   C. Probation will run concurrent with employment as an lpn.

   D. The respondent must be employed a minimum of 80 hours per month.

E. The probationary period will not commence or progress until and unless the respondent is employed and delivering direct patient care as a licensed practical nurse.

F. Failure to maintain stable employment may be grounds for termination of probation.

G. The respondent must practice under the supervision of a nurse (rn or lpn) or physician whose license is unencumbered and must provide direct patient care as follows:

   i. The respondent must be supervised on a regular and consistent basis by his/her assigned supervisor. The supervisor must observe and work closely enough with the respondent to be able to give an informed evaluation of the respondent. The employer must be willing to allow this supervision and provide opportunities for the same supervisor to evaluate the performance of the respondent.

   ii. It is the respondent's responsibility to ensure that his/her supervisor submits the evaluation reports quarterly.

      a. Reports are due on or before the 10th day of January, April, July, and October of each year. (Note: these forms will be provided to the employer)

      b. Only the respondent's direct supervisor may complete the evaluations according to the observations made during the supervision.

H. The respondent is prohibited from working in temporary staffing, as an agency nurse, for a nursing pool and/or in the home health setting, or in any other similar setting including but not limited to working in a teaching capacity, as a travel nurse and/or on an "as needed" basis - prn.

I. The respondent shall notify the board in writing within **ten (10) days** of any change in employment. Changes in employment include accepting a new job, as well as resignation, or termination.

J. Upon obtaining a prescription for controlled/abuse potential substance(s) while holding a probated license, the respondent is responsible for informing his/her employer within **three (3) days** from the date of the prescription(s).

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Violations

The respondent is hereby notified that failure to comply with any stipulations of this order of the board may result in any or all of the following:

a) immediate suspension of license, b) indefinite suspension of license, c) ineligibility for annual renewal of license, d) additional fines/penalties up to $500.00 per occurrence, e) increased probationary period, f) summary suspension and g) revocation.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY SECTION OF THIS ORDER RELATED TO DRUG SCREENS, TREATMENT PLANS, AND/OR REGARDING PERSONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE WHETHER PRESCRIPTION DRUGS OR ILLEGAL DRUGS MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION OF UP TO A FOUR (4) YEAR PERIOD WITHOUT A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD. During the period of suspension, if related to substance abuse, appropriate consistent treatment must be obtained, and the respondent must show evidence of **two (2) consecutive years** of being drug/alcohol free immediately prior to the respondent's initiation of a reinstatement request. If during the **two (2) consecutive years** of sobriety the respondent relapses, the **two (2) consecutive years** of sobriety will re-start on the date of the relapse occurrence, provided that the respondent is in treatment.

Public Records

This order is public record. All disciplinary actions of the board will be reported to all required data banks and agencies as required by law.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS

M Lynn Ansardi R N 9/21/16

M. Lynn Ansardi, RN — Date
Executive Director

Rendered this **21st** day of **September, 2016**, and mailed this **21st** day of **September, 2016**, by U.S. Postal Service, Regular and Certified Mail No. 7015 3430 0000 2102 5777 to:

Myrna Foster
2464 Talbot Ave, # 616
Thibodaux, LA 70301