

STATE OF MAINE BOARD OF NURSING 158 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0158

MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.

XECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN RE: JENNIFER DeBELLA, L.P.N.)	E.
of Jefferson, Maine)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
License No. P010803)	FOR WARNING

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement ("Agreement") regarding Jennifer DeBella's license to practice licensed practical nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (1-A) (A), 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5) (A-1) (1) and § 8003(5) (B). The parties to this Agreement are Jennifer DeBella ("Licensee" or "Ms. DeBella"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The Board met with Ms. DeBella in an Informal Conference on January 8, 2009. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of a Notice of Complaint/Provider Report from the Board dated January 18, 2008, consisting of correspondence and investigative conclusions from Fieldcrest Manor ("Fieldcrest") dated November 28, 2007 and January 9, 2008, respectively.

FACTS

- Jennifer DeBella has been a licensed practical nurse licensed to practice in Maine since 1. November 1992.
- Jennifer DeBella was employed as a Skilled Unit Manager at Fieldcrest, Ms. DeBella 2. admits that she exercised poor judgment on November 23 and November 24, 2007 by failing to follow a physician's order for daily observation of a surgical wound and treatments on a patient, and by failing to report to the next shift that the treatment had not been done. Ms. DeBella's employment was terminated from Fieldcrest on November 26, 2007.

AGREEMENT

3. Jennifer DeBella understands and agrees that her conduct in the above-stated facts constitutes grounds for discipline under Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (F) and (2) (H) and Chapter 4.1.A.6, 4.1.A.8 and Chapter 4.3.F. of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Jennifer DeBella is hereby WARNED for these violations. Specifically, the violations are:

Title 32 M.R.S.A. §§:

PHONE: (207) 287-1133

2105-A (2) (F). Unprofessional Conduct. Ms. DeBella engaged in unprofessional conduct by violating standards of professional behavior regarding patient care that have been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed. (See also Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)

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b. 2105-A (2) (H). A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the Board. (See also Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)

<u>Chapter 4, Section 3.</u> *Unprofessional Conduct* as defined by the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing in Chapter 4, Section 3, describes "Nursing behavior which fails to conform to legal standards of the nursing profession, and which could reflect adversely on the health and welfare of the public shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- c. Section 3(F). Failure to take appropriate action or to follow policies and procedures in the practice situation designed to safeguard a patient.
- 4. The State of Maine is a "party state" that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact ("Compact"), which is set out in Chapter 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. The State of Maine is Ms. DeBella's "home state" of licensure and primary state of residence, which means she has declared the State of Maine as her fixed permanent and principle home for legal purposes; her domicile. Other party states that are in the Compact are referred to as "remote states," which means party states other than the home state that have adopted the Compact. Ms. DeBella understands that this document is an Agreement that is subject to the Compact.
- 5. Jennifer DeBella understands that she does not have to execute this Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Consent Agreement.
- 6. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S.A. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 408.
- 7. Modification of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.
- 8. This Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Ms. DeBella.
- 9. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, JENNIFER DeBELLA, L.P.N., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THE EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON MY PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, KNOWINGLY, AND INTELLIGENTLY AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

DATED: 2122 00

JENNIFER DeBELLA, L.P.N.

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FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 2/27/09

MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.

Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: <u>3/3/09</u>

IOHN H. RICHARDS

Assistant Attorney General