

# MSBON



MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING  
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In re: )  
Doreen R. Berzinis, R.N. ) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**  
of Augusta, Maine )  
License #R032834 )

## INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Doreen R. Berzinis' license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine, entered into pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. Section 2105-A(1-A)(B) and 10 M.R.S.A. Section 8003(5)(B). The parties to this Consent Agreement are: Doreen R. Berzinis, R.N., the Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine.

By letter dated January 6, 1994, Ms. Berzinis was advised by the Board that it had received a letter dated December 17, 1993 from John H. Kanwit, M.D., stating that Ms. Berzinis had apparently forged prescriptions for controlled substances. This information was supplemented by letter dated February 15, 1994 from Betsey Plummer, Administrator of Nurses' House Call, indicating that Ms. Berzinis was employed by that agency but was on a medical leave of absence. The Board held an informal conference to discuss this matter on April 7, 1994. Ms. Berzinis attended that conference and entered into a Temporary Consent Agreement pursuant to which she voluntarily surrendered her license pending the outcome of the criminal proceedings in Maine. On February 8, 1995 the informal conference was reconvened. This Consent Agreement is a result of that informal conference.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The criminal matter concerning Ms. Berzinis has been resolved with a conviction on July 6, 1994 on one count of Class D Acquiring Drugs by Deception. Ms. Berzinis received a suspended six month sentence and was placed on probation for a period of one year for that offense. At the time of the informal conference Ms. Berzinis was apparently meeting all conditions of her criminal probation.
2. Ms. Berzinis stated that she had been substance-free for 13 months at the time of the continued informal conference.

3. Ms. Berzinis stated that she remained involved in follow-up care with her prescribed treatment plan and self-help recovery.
4. Ms. Berzinis voluntarily surrendered her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine at the April 7, 1994 informal conference in this case.
5. Ms. Berzinis was at the time of the continued informal conference employed in a position outside of the health care field and was also a full-time student.

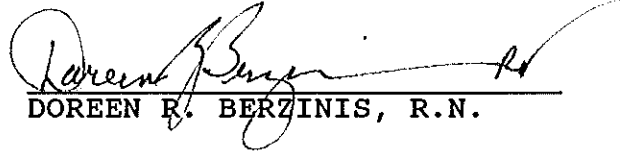
#### COVENANTS

Ms. Berzinis' license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine is hereby reinstated on a probationary status for a period of two years with the following conditions:

1. Ms. Berzinis will remain substance-free.
2. Ms. Berzinis will continue her prescribed treatment and self-help recovery programs.
3. Ms. Berzinis will arrange to have quarterly reports submitted to the Board from her substance abuse counselor. Ms. Berzinis waives any claims of confidentiality and privilege which she may have with respect to these reports.
4. Ms. Berzinis will notify any employer in the field of nursing of the probationary status of her license, and will arrange to have quarterly reports submitted to the Board from any employer in the field of nursing.
5. Ms. Berzinis will not seek nor accept employment in nursing in a position that takes her into patient homes.
6. The Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts so long as Ms. Berzinis fully complies with these conditions. Ms. Berzinis must request termination of the probationary status of her license upon the conclusion of the two-year probationary period. The Board will consider reinstatement of Ms. Berzinis' license after the expiration of the probationary period, at which time the Board will consider the degree to which Ms. Berzinis has complied with these conditions.
7. Ms. Berzinis understands that this document is a Consent Agreement which affects her legal right to practice nursing in Maine. Ms. Berzinis understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that

she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering this Consent Agreement. Ms. Berzinis affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.

DATED: 07-24-95

  
DOREEN R. BERZINIS, R.N.


DATED: 8/9/95

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:

  
JEAN C. CARON, R.N., M.S.  
Executive Director

DATED: 8/15/95

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:

  
TIMOTHY W. COLLIER  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counsel to the Board