BEFORE THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE NO. )
R020622 ISSUED TO: )
Albert B. Blackadar, Jr. )
ORDER TERMINATING )
) PROBATION

To practice professional nursing in the )
State of Maine )
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WHEREAS, on February 7, 1996, License No. R020622 issued to Albert B. Blackadar, Jr., was placed on "probation" pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. Section 2105-A (1-A); and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2001, the Board of Nursing duly considered all evidence presented to it concerning Albert B. Blackadar's compliance with the conditions of said probation; and

WHEREAS, the Board found that Albert B. Blackadar, Jr., has completed all of the Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered that the Order of Probation executed on March 1, 1996 is hereby terminated.

DATED this 22nd day of February 2001.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

BY: Myra A. Broadway, J.D., M.S., R.N.
Executive Director
In re: Albert B. Blackadar, JR. of Searsport, Maine License #R020622

CONSENT AGREEMENT REGARDING PROBATIONARY STATUS OF LICENSE

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Albert B. Blackadar's 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: Albert B. Blackadar, Jr., R.N., the Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine.

Mr. Blackadar contacted the Board's Executive Director, Jean Caron, by telephone on September 8, 1995 and discussed with her a substance abuse problem and its implications for his licensure. By letter dated September 9, 1995, Mr. Blackadar mailed to the Board his registered professional nurse license. Subsequently, the Board requested that Mr. Blackadar attend an informal conference pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. Section 2105-A(1-A). The informal conference was held on February 7, 1996. Mr. Blackadar was present and was represented by Charles E. Gilbert, III, Esq.

FINDINGS OF FACT

As a result of the informal conference the Board made the following findings of fact:

1. Mr. Blackadar admits to diversion and use of leftover therapeutic cocaine while employed at both Waldo County General Hospital and Mt. Desert Island Hospital, and impairment on duty at those institutions from the effects of cocaine use.

2. There is no documented evidence of patient harm from these incidents.

3. Mr. Blackadar states that no patients were deprived of needed medications as a result of his actions.

4. Mr. Blackadar has a long history of substance abuse extending for more than 16 years.
5. After being discovered on-duty under the influence of cocaine at Waldo County General Hospital in September 1995, Mr. Blackadar voluntarily surrendered his license and entered a rehabilitation program.

6. Mr. Blackadar has a strong support system through both his employer and his family.

7. Mr. Blackadar is currently under treatment (and contract) with the Physician Health Program of the Maine Medical Association, which includes urine testing and mandated reporting of any failure of a urine test.

8. Mr. Blackadar has completed his initial rehabilitation program, is currently in aftercare, and in active 12-step recovery programs.

9. Mr. Blackadar has been clean and sober for five (5) months.

10. Mr. Blackadar presented several letters of support from his sponsors, monitors, and colleagues.

11. Waldo County General Hospital, Mr. Blackadar's employer, was present at the hearing through its Executive Director and several co-workers. The facility is fully aware of the situation, is supportive and willing to re-employ Mr. Blackadar, and at Mr. Blackadar's suggestion has tightened its controlled substance access policies.

COVENANTS

Mr. Blackadar's license to practice professional nursing in Maine is hereby placed on a probationary status for a period of five (5) years subject to the following conditions:

1. Mr. Blackadar will remain substance-free.

2. Mr. Blackadar will comply in all respects with his contract with the Maine Medical Association Physician Health Program ("PHP"). Any and all reports or notifications required under that contract to be provided or made to the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine shall be provided to the Maine State Board of Nursing.

3. If the PHP issues any reports of relapse by Mr. Blackadar, he agrees that his license will be immediately and indefinitely suspended without further hearing.
4. Mr. Blackadar shall only practice in a supervised health care setting (e.g., a hospital or clinic) and shall not practice independently, notwithstanding the recent change in the law regarding advanced practice registered nursing which would otherwise permit such independent practice.

5. Mr. Blackadar will promptly notify the Board of any change of employment.

6. Mr. Blackadar will provide a copy of this Consent Agreement to any employer, and will arrange to have quarterly reports submitted to the Board from any employer. Mr. Blackadar waives any claims of confidentiality and privilege which he may have with respect to these reports.

7. Mr. Blackadar will arrange to have quarterly reports submitted to the Board from his treating counselor or addictionologist. Mr. Blackadar waives any claims of confidentiality and privilege which he may have with respect to these reports.

8. Mr. Blackadar will arrange to have copies of all drug screening test results submitted to the Board. Mr. Blackadar waives any claims of confidentiality or privilege which he may have with respect to these reports.

9. The Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts so long as Mr. Blackadar complies fully with these conditions. Mr. Blackadar must request termination of the probationary status of his license upon the conclusion of the five-year probationary period. The Board will consider reinstatement of Mr. Blackadar's license after the expiration of the probationary period, at which time the Board will consider the degree to which Mr. Blackadar has complied with these conditions.

10. Mr. Blackadar understands that this document is a Consent Agreement which affects his legal right to practice nursing in Maine. Mr. Blackadar understands that he does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that he has the right to consult with an attorney before entering this Consent Agreement. Mr. Blackadar affirms that he is executing this Consent Agreement of his own free will.
DATED: 4/28/96

ALBERT B. BLACKADAR, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:

DATED: 2/29/96

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

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:

DATED: 3/1/96

TIMOTHY W. COLLIERS
Assistant Attorney General
Counsel to the Board