BEFORE THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE RN59847 ISSUED TO:
CORINNA M. CHEVALIER

ORDER TERMINATING
PROBATION

To practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2011, License #RN59847 was issued to Corinna Chevalier with probationary conditions pursuant to 32 M.R.S. Section 2105-A (1-A); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Nursing has duly considered all evidence presented to it concerning Corinna Chevalier's compliance with the conditions of said probation; and

WHEREAS, the Board found that Corinna Chevalier has completed all of the Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered that the Decision and Order of Probation executed on October 5, 2011 is hereby terminated.

DATED this 28th day of November, 2013.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

BY:  
Myra A. Broadway, JD, MS, RN 
Executive Director
IN RE: Corinna M. Chevalier

) DECISION AND ORDER/APPEAL

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to the authority found in 32 M.R.S. Sec. 2105-A(1-A), et seq., 5 M.R.S. Sec. 9051, et seq. and 10 M.R.S. Sec. 8003, et seq., the Maine State Board of Nursing (Board) met in public session at the Board’s hearing room located in Augusta, Maine at 10:30 a.m. on September 22, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct an adjudicatory hearing to determine whether grounds exist to support the Board’s initial denial of Corinna Chevalier’s Application for Examination and License As a Registered Professional Nurse. A quorum of the Board was in attendance during all stages of the proceedings. Participating and voting Board members were Chairman Pro Tem Margaret Hourigan, R.N., Ed. D.; public member Robin Brooks; Elaine Duguay, L.P.N.; Carmen Christensen, R.N.; and Joanne Fortin, R.N. John Richards, Assistant Attorney General, presented the State’s case. Appellant Chevalier was present and not represented by an attorney. James E. Smith, Esq. served as Presiding Officer.

The Board first determined that none of the Board members had conflicts of interest which would bar them from participating in the hearing. The Board then took official notice of its statutes and Rules. Subsequent to the State’s opening statement, State’s Exhibits 1-3 were admitted into the Record. The Board then heard the testimony, reviewed the submission of exhibits, and considered the parties’ closing arguments, after which it deliberated and made the following findings of fact by a preponderance of the credible evidence and conclusions of law regarding the appeal.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

Corinna Chevalier first applied for a Maine Registered Professional Nurse’s License on May 26, 2011, shortly after she had successfully completed her Baccalaureate Degree in nursing. The application was denied by the Board during its August 31-September 1, 2011 meeting due to the Appellant’s past criminal conduct and history of substance abuse. Ms. Chevalier responded to the denial by filing a timely appeal on September 4, 2011.

Appellant Chevalier testified at the September 22, 2011 Board hearing that she had been suffering from alcoholism and abused drugs for a time during her teenage and early adult years. Ms. Chevalier was
convicted of Refusing to Sign a Criminal Summons on October 7, 2000, a Class E crime. She was also convicted of Operating Under the Influence on April 17, 2001 and completed the mandatory DEEP requirements on January 17, 2003. Subsequent to her OUI conviction, she continued to drink until 2004, when she reached the age of 31. In February of that year, she entered the Crossroads Program which provides in-house substance abuse treatment for women, but left after 13 weeks to be with a boyfriend. She then re-entered the Crossroads Program in February 2005 until she successfully completed the program. Ms. Chevalier further testified that she suffered a one-day relapse in her alcohol abstinence which occurred in April 2007 when her daughter was diagnosed with a terminal illness.

In addition to completing the Crossroads Program, Ms. Chevalier attends AA meetings at least on a daily basis. She has a sponsor through AA who works with her on a regular basis. The Appellant has had no criminal involvement including OUI, etc. since 2001 and has not had an alcoholic drink since April 18, 2007, nor taken any illegal drug such as cocaine since January 18, 2005.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts and those found in the record but not alluded to herein, and utilizing its experience and training, the Board, by a vote of 5-0, concluded that Corinna Chevalier has met the requirements for licensure as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of Maine. The license shall be granted with the condition that Corinna Chevalier is hereby placed on probation for a period of two (2) years, effective only while she is in nursing and/or enrolled in a nursing education program, and during which period she shall:

1. Remain substance-free. Failure to do so will result in an automatic and immediate suspension of Corinna Chevalier’s license pending further review by the Board.
2. Advise all health care providers of her substance abuse history.
3. Continue aftercare with AA/NA, support groups, and/or counseling and be responsible to ensure that quarterly reports are provided to the Board’s Probation Compliance Officer.
4. Provide a copy of this Decision and Order to her nursing employer(s).
5. Ensure that quarterly reports addressing her nursing practice are submitted by her nursing employer(s) to the Board’s Probation Compliance Officer.
6. Nursing employment is restricted to structured settings ONLY with ON-SITE nursing supervision. Structured settings shall not include assignments from temporary employment agencies, home health, school nursing, work as a travel nurse, or within the correctional system.
7. No Multi-state Privilege without written agreement by this Board and the Board in the state in which she wishes to practice.

8. Notify the Board in writing regarding any change in address and nursing employment or entry into an educational program in the field of nursing. Notification shall include the place and position of employment or educational program and the same notification shall apply to any subsequent change in employment or change in her educational program.

Wherefore, the APPEAL is GRANTED.

So Ordered.

Dated: October 5, 2011

Chairman Pkg Tem Margaret Hourigan, R.N., Ed. D.

IV. APPEAL RIGHTS

Pursuant to the provisions of 5 M.R.S. Sec. 10051.3 and 10 M.R.S. Sec. 8003(5)(G) and (5-A)(G), any party that appeals this Decision and Order must file a Petition for Review in the Maine Superior Court having jurisdiction within 30 days of receipt of this Order.

The petition shall specify the person seeking review, the manner in which s/he is aggrieved and the final agency action which s/he wishes reviewed. It shall also contain a concise statement as to the nature of the action or inaction to be reviewed, the grounds upon which relief is sought and a demand for relief. Copies of the Petition for Review shall be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested upon the Maine State Board of Nursing, all parties to the agency proceedings, and the Maine Attorney General.