



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

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
 GOVERNOR

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

IN RE: **PATRICIA A. FITZPATRICK** ) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**  
 of Burnham, Maine ) **FOR SUSPENSION**  
 License #P011623 )

**INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Patricia A. Fitzpatrick's license to practice practical nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A) and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Patricia A. Fitzpatrick ("Licensee"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine. An informal conference was held on August 23, 2001. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of information submitted by Pro Health Staffing in a letter received by the Board on June 15, 2000.

**FACTS**

1. Patricia A. Fitzpatrick has been licensed by the Board as a practical nurse since June, 1995.
2. On June 2, 2000, Ms. Fitzpatrick was suspended from Pro Health Staffing pending an investigation of complaints of repeated incidences of inappropriate administration and documentation of medications. She resigned from Pro Health Staffing on June 6, 2000 while the investigation was pending.
3. This is Ms. Fitzpatrick's second appearance before the Board for a medication error. She entered a Consent Agreement January 26, 2000. Ms. Fitzpatrick never completed the medication test which had been requested by her employer, Pro Health Staffing.
4. Two agencies for which Ms. Fitzpatrick had worked through Pro Health Staffing refused to rehire her. Most of her employment has been short-term in long term care facilities.
5. Ms. Fitzpatrick's errors in medication administration and documentation evidences a lack of knowledge of the medications which she administered and an inability to apply her knowledge to her practice.
6. Based on a finding of four separate errors in medication administration and documentation, the Board will suspend Ms. Fitzpatrick's license for a one year period.



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OFFICES LOCATED AT: 24 STONE ST., AUGUSTA, ME  
 PHONE: (207) 287-1133

**AGREEMENT**

7. Patricia A. Fitzpatrick understands that her conduct constitutes grounds for discipline and this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice nursing under Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(E)(2) and (H). Ms. Fitzpatrick understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering the Consent Agreement.
8. **Suspension:** Ms. Fitzpatrick's license to practice practical nursing shall be suspended for a period of one-year from the effective date of this Agreement. Ms. Fitzpatrick understands and agrees that her license will not be reinstated until and unless the Board, upon Ms. Fitzpatrick's request, votes to reinstate Ms. Fitzpatrick's license. Following the one-year period of suspension and after reinstatement, Ms. Fitzpatrick's license to practice shall be subject to a period of probation of nursing practice.
9. **Conditions:** The reinstatement of Ms. Fitzpatrick's nursing license is conditioned upon her successful completion of a structured course in pharmacology at a formal educational facility. Proof of successful completion of the course in pharmacology shall be forwarded to the Board prior to the Board's consideration for reinstatement.
10. **Terms of Suspension:** Ms. Fitzpatrick agrees and understands that her license will not be reinstated unless and until she has complied with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement regarding her successful completion of the educational component of this Agreement.

Ms. Fitzpatrick my petition the Board for reinstatement of her license one year from the effective date of this Agreement. Ms. Fitzpatrick further understands and agrees that should the Board determine, after opportunity for hearing, that she has failed to comply with the terms of this agreement the Board may take such other disciplinary action as is authorized by law.

11. Ms. Fitzpatrick understands that this document is a Consent Agreement that affects her rights to practice nursing in Maine.
12. This Consent Agreement may be amended only in writing, signed by all the parties.
13. Ms. Fitzpatrick affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.

14. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the last necessary signature below.


I, PATRICIA A. FITZPATRICK HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

DATED: 12/03/01

  
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PATRICIA A. FITZPATRICK

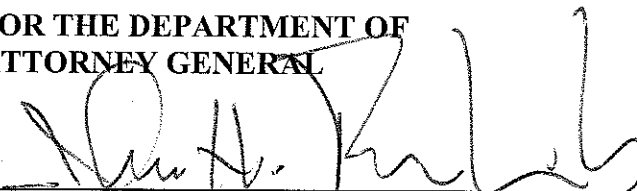
FOR THE MAINE STATE  
BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 12/10/01

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

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: 12/11/01

  
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JOHN H. RICHARDS  
Assistant Attorney General