



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

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
 GOVERNOR

JEAN C. CARON, M.S., R.N.  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**IN RE:** )  
**JANENE S. GORHAM, R.N.** ) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**  
**of Cumberland, Maine** ) **REGARDING WARNING**  
**License #R027184** )

**INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Janene S. Gorham's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this agreement pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(B) and 5 M.R.S.A. § 9053(2). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Janene S. Gorham, R.N., the Maine State Board of Nursing ("the Board") and the Department of the Attorney General, State of Maine. This Consent Agreement arose out of an informal conference held on June 11, 1997 regarding issues raised by Maine Medical Center in its letter dated November 18, 1996.

**FACTS**

1. Ms. Gorham has been a registered professional nurse for 27 years.
2. Ms. Gorham has been employed at the Maine Medical Center for 13 years.
3. In August 1996, Ms. Gorham falsified a physician's signature on a physician's order sheet. The Maine Medical Center suspended Ms. Gorham for 30 days as a result of this conduct.
4. Ms. Gorham stated that she had the opportunity to destroy the order sheet but did not.
5. There is no documented patient harm arising from Ms. Gorham's conduct.
6. Ms. Gorham denies engaging in any other instances of similar misconduct.
7. At the time of the incident, it was common practice for nurses at Maine Medical Center to administer medication prior to receiving a signed physician's order, although there were no written protocols for this practice.
8. Ms. Gorham has received positive performance evaluations throughout her 13 years of employment at Maine Medical Center.
9. Ms. Gorham does not currently work in the post-anesthesia care unit, the unit where this misconduct occurred.

**AGREEMENT**

Ms. Gorham's conduct in this matter constitutes grounds for discipline under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(E)(1) and (F). Ms. Gorham is hereby **WARNED**. In reliance upon and in consideration of Ms. Gorham's execution of this Consent Agreement, the Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts.

Ms. Gorham understands that this document is a Consent Agreement which affects her license to practice nursing in Maine. Ms. Gorham understands that this Consent Agreement imposes discipline. This Consent Agreement may be amended only in writing, signed by all parties. Ms. Gorham 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 agreement. Ms. Gorham affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the last necessary signature below.

DATED: July 18, 1997

Janene S. Gorham  
JANENE S. GORHAM, R.N.

DATED: July 1, 1997

John G. Richardson  
JOHN G. RICHARDSON, JR., ESQ.  
Counsel to the Licensee

DATED: 7/28/97

**MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:**

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

DATED: 7/29/97

**DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

Susan A. Sparaco  
SUSAN A. SPARACO  
Assistant Attorney General  
Counsel to the Board