



Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

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

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

IN RE: DIXIE B. SPROUL )  
of Waldoboro, ME )  
License RN36739 )

CONSENT AGREEMENT  
FOR  
WARNING

**Complaint 2013-9**

**INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to Title 32 Chapter 31, the Maine State Legislature endowed the Board with the power and duty to regulate the practice of nurses licensed by the Board, including issuing licenses and investigating complaints. Pursuant to 10 M.R.S. §8008, the Legislature provided that the sole purpose of the Board is to "protect the public health and welfare" and that "other goals or objectives may not supersede this purpose."

This document is a Consent Agreement ("Agreement") regarding Dixie Sproul's license as a registered professional nurse ("RN") in the State of Maine. The parties to this Agreement are Dixie Sproul ("Licensee" or "Ms. Sproul"), the Maine State Board of Nursing ("the Board"), and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The Board met with Licensee in an informal conference on September 4, 2013. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §2105-A (1-A)(B), 10 M.R.S. §§8003 (5) (A-1)(4) and 8003 (5)(B) in order to resolve Complaint 2013-9.

**FACTS**

1. Licensee was first licensed to practice as an RN in Maine on September 16, 2003; said license lapsed on August 7, 2013. At all times relevant to the subject of this matter, Licensee was employed by Lincoln County Healthcare ("Lincoln") at the Coves Edge facility in Damariscotta.
2. On December 10, 2012, Licensee performed an intake examination on a new patient while the patient was sleeping. The examination occurred without patient consent and included an examination of the patient's vagina. The patient was very upset by the examination. Licensee did not report the incident to her management and the events of the examination only became known to the facility several days later through a report by a family member of the patient.
3. On December 21, 2012, the Licensee was terminated from employment by Lincoln for the incident which occurred on December 10, 2012.
4. On January 11, 2013, the Board received notification from Lincoln of the Licensee's termination. As a result of receiving this information, the Board initiated a complaint against Licensee's Maine nursing license. Board staff docketed the Complaint as 2013-9.
5. On February 19, 2013, the Board issued a Notice of Complaint to Licensee relating to Complaint 2013-9.
6. On March 21, 2013, the Board received Licensee's written response to the Notice of Complaint.
7. On September 4, 2013, the Board held an informal conference with Licensee regarding Complaint 2013-9. Following the informal conference, the Board voted to offer Licensee a consent agreement.



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OFFICES LOCATED AT: 161 CAPITOL ST., AUGUSTA, ME  
<http://www.maine.gov/boardofnursing/>

8. This Agreement is being offered in order to resolve Complaint 2013-9 without further proceedings. Absent Licensee's acceptance of this Agreement by signing, dating, and returning it to the Maine State Board of Nursing, 158 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0158 on or before December 27, 2013, the Board will take further action. In the absence of an agreement on Complaint 2013-9 the Board could impose, subsequent to adjudicatory proceedings, greater adverse action on this matter including fines, suspension or revocation of Licensee's license.

AGREEMENT

9. Licensee admits to the Facts as stated above and admits that such conduct constitutes grounds for the Board to impose discipline against her Maine nursing license under the following laws and regulations:

32 M.R.S. §2105-A (2)(F)(1) and Board Rules Chapter 4 §1.A.6 for engaging in conduct that violates any standard of professional behavior which has been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed; and

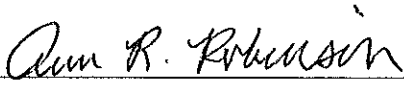
Board Rule Chapter 4 §3(l) for failing to safeguard the patient's dignity and right to privacy in providing services regardless of race, color, creed and status.

10. As discipline for the violations admitted to in paragraph 9 above, Licensee agrees that she will receive a WARNING related to the above stated conduct.
11. Licensee waives her right to an adjudicatory hearing before the Board or any court regarding all facts, terms and conditions of this Agreement. Licensee agrees that this Agreement is a final order resolving Complaint 2013-9.
12. The Board and the Attorney General may communicate and cooperate regarding Licensee's practice or any other matter relating to this Agreement.
13. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S. §402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §408-A.
14. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to affect any right or interest of any person not a party hereto.
15. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "execution" means that date on which the final signature is affixed to this Agreement.
16. Licensee acknowledges by her signature hereto that she has read this Agreement, that she has had an opportunity to consult with an attorney before executing this Agreement, that she has executed this Agreement of her own free will and that she agrees to abide by all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

DATED: 12-18-13


Dixie B Sproul  
LICENSEE DIXIE B. SPROUL

DATED: 12/20/13

  
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ANN R. ROBINSON, ESQ.  
Attorney for Dixie B. Sproul

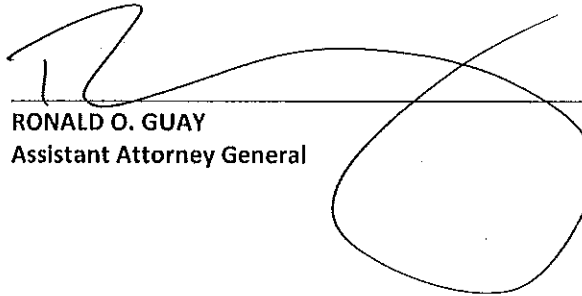
FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 12/23/13

  
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MYRA A. BROADWAY, JD, MS, RN  
Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: 1/3/14

  
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RONALD O. GUAY  
Assistant Attorney General

Effective Date: 1/3/14