

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

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

IN RE: LESLIE Y. STRAUSS)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
of Naples, FL)	FOR VOLUNTARY
Licenses #RN50712)	SURRENDER OF LICENSE

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement ("Agreement") regarding Leslie Y. Strauss's license as a registered professional nurse in the State of Maine. The parties to this Agreement are Leslie Y. Strauss ("Licensee" or "Ms. Strauss"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (1-A) (C), 10 M.R.S. §§ 8003 (5) (B) and 8003 (5) (D). The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of a Final Order from the Florida Board of Nursing dated April 27, 2011 (Case No. 2010-04594) and a self-report from the Licensee dated May 17, 2011 [Exhibit 1].

FACTS

- 1. <u>Licensing History.</u> Leslie Y. Strauss has been licensed as a registered professional nurse to practice in Maine since January 25, 2005; said license lapsed on March 19, 2012.
- 2. Nursing License Disciplinary History (obtained from NURSYS national database)
 - a) Oregon State Board of Nursing:
 - January 21, 1982 January 21, 1984. Stayed Suspension + Probation following Licensee's admission to obtaining and self-administering an unauthorized controlled substance (Demerol).
 - March 19, 1982 March 19, 1984. Revocation following Licensee's admission to unauthorized obtaining and self-administering of a controlled substance.
 - March 21, 1984 March 21, 1986, Probation.
 - b) Michigan Board of Nursing:
 - June 3, 1982 December 3, 1982. Suspension for incompetence and substance abuse.
 - Florida Board of Nursing:
 - August 20, 1982. Revocation based on the March 19, 1982 revocation by the Oregon State Board of Nursing and substance abuse.
 - June 27, 2005. Suspension + Reprimand + \$3,030.27 Investigative Costs for unprofessional conduct and misappropriation of Dilaudid.
 - April 27, 2011: Reprimand + \$250 Fine + \$2,941.78 Investigative Costs + Educational Requirements regarding allegations of unprofessional conduct, including inaccurate recording, and failure to meet the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing nurse practice.
 - June 8, 2011 December 28, 2011. Suspension regarding violation of her Intervention Project for Nurses ("IPN") contract. License status is currently listed as a "voluntary relinquish."
- 3. Leslie Y. Strauss states her license to practice nursing in Florida is contingent upon her participation in its IPN Program.
- 4. Leslie Y. Strauss has offered to surrender her Maine registered professional nursing license based upon the above-stated facts and thereby waives her right to an adjudicatory hearing.



AGREEMENT

5. The Maine State Board of Nursing will accept Leslie Y. Strauss's offer to voluntarily surrender her registered professional nursing license. Ms. Strauss understands and agrees that should this matter go to hearing before the Board, it is more likely than not that the Final Order from the Florida Board of Nursing dated April 27, 2011 would support the Board's decision to take reciprocal action. Further, she understands and agrees that this document imposes discipline regarding her nursing practice in the State of Maine. The grounds for discipline are found under Title 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A(2)(E)(1), (2)(E)(2), (2)(F) and (2)(H) and Chapter 4, Sections 1(A)(5)(a), 1(A)(5)(b), 1(A)(6), 1(A)(8) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing, Specifically, the violations are:

32 M.R.S. §:

- a. 2105-A (2) (E). Incompetence. A licensee is considered incompetent in the practice if s/he has:
 - 1. Engaged in conduct that evidences a lack of ability or fitness to discharge the duty owed by the licensee to a client or patient or the general public; or
 - 2. Engaged in conduct that evidences a lack of knowledge or inability to apply principles or skills to carry out the practice for which the licensee is licensed. See also: Rule Chapter 4, Sections 1.A.5.a. and 1.A.5.b.
- b. 2105-A (2) (F). Unprofessional Conduct. Ms. Strauss has engaged in unprofessional conduct by violating standards of professional behavior that have been established in the practice for which she is licensed. See also: Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.
- c. 2105-A (2) (H). A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the Board. See also: Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.8.
- 6. Leslie Y. Strauss understands and agrees that her nursing license will remain on surrender status and subject to the terms of this Agreement indefinitely until and unless the Board, at her written request, votes to reinstate her license. Ms. Strauss understands and agrees that if the Board reinstates her license, it will be for a probationary period.
- 7. Leslie Y. Strauss understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Agreement.
- 8. Leslie Y. Strauss shall not work or volunteer in any capacity for a health care provider as defined by Title 24 M.R.S. § 2502 (2) or in any position holding herself out as a registered professional nurse or with the designation "RN" while her nursing license is surrendered.
- 9. 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.
- 10. Modification of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.
- 11. This Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
- 12. Leslie Y. Strauss affirms that she executes this Agreement of her own free will.
- 13. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, LESLIE Y. STRAUSS, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, KNOWINGLY, AND INTELLIGENTLY AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

DATED: 27April

LESLIE V. STŘAUSS

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 7/1/4/1/2012

MYRA'A. BROADWAY, JQ, MS, RN

Executive Director

DATED:

JOHN H. RICHARDS

Assistant Attorney General

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL