BEFORE THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE #R044088 ISSUED TO: 
MARGARET VAN PEURSEM
To practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine

ORDER TERMINATING PROBATION

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2008, License #R044088 issued to Margaret Van Peursem was placed on "probation" pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. Section 2105-A (1-A); and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2010, the Board of Nursing duly considered all evidence presented to it concerning Margaret Van Peursem's compliance with the conditions of said probation; and

WHEREAS, the Board found that Margaret Van Peursem has completed all of the Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered that the Order of Probation executed on April 30, 2008 is hereby terminated.

DATED this 11th day of March, 2010.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

BY: Myra A. Broadway, J.D., M.S., R.N.
Executive Director

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER
IN RE: MARGARET S. VAN PEURSEM, R.N. ) CONSENT AGREEMENT
of Ellsworth, Maine ) FOR LICENSE PROBATION
License No. R044088 ) WITH CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Margaret S. Van Peursem’s license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (1-A) (B) and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5) (B). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Margaret S. Van Peursem (“Licensee” or “Ms. Van Peursem”), Maine State Board of Nursing (“Board”) and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. An informal conference was held on September 27, 2007. The parties reached this Consent Agreement on the basis of a Complaint and Provider Report dated October 12, 2006, with information from St. Joseph Healthcare (“St. Joseph’s”), Bangor Maine, dated September 7, 2006, and supplemental information received from St. Joseph’s dated December 11, 2006, containing patient medical records and the licensee’s personnel records.

FACTS

1. Margaret S. Van Peursem has been a registered professional nurse licensed to practice in Maine since 1999.

2. Margaret S. Van Peursem was employed as a registered professional nurse at St. Joseph’s and was terminated from employment on August 29, 2006. She was terminated by St. Joseph’s for unprofessional conduct as described in the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing, Chapter 4, subsection 3(K) for “inaccurate recording, falsifying or altering a patient or healthcare provider record.”

3. On August 18, 2006, Ms. Van Peursem documented that she performed lung sounds on a patient. Ms. Van Peursem later admitted that she did not perform lung sounds on the patient, and that she had failed to perform a complete nursing assessment on the patient. There was no documented patient harm.

AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS OF PROBATION

4. Margaret S. Van Peursem agrees and understands that based upon the above-stated facts this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice registered professional nursing and the grounds for discipline are under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(F), (2)(H) and Chapter, 4(1)(A)(6), 4(1)(A)(8) and Chapter 4(3)(K) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing.
5. Margaret S. Van Peursem’s license as a registered professional nurse in the State of Maine is placed on a probationary status with conditions. The period of probation will commence on Ms. Van Peursem’s return to nursing practice, either through employment and/or pursuant to an educational program. The period of probation will be for a period of two years, to be effective only while she is employed in nursing practice and/or enrolled in a nursing education program. For purposes of this Agreement, nursing employment is any employment during which Ms. Van Peursem performs nursing services. Ms. Van Peursem’s probationary license will be subject to the following conditions:

a. Margaret S. Van Peursem will immediately notify the Board in writing should she return to employment and/or an educational program in the field of nursing. Notice under this section shall include the place and position of employment or the educational program and any subsequent change in employment or educational programs.

b. Margaret S. Van Peursem will notify any and all of her nursing employers and notify faculty involved in any clinical studies of the terms of this Consent Agreement and shall provide them with a copy of it.

c. Margaret S. Van Peursem will arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her nursing employer and/or clinical faculty regarding her general nursing practice, which is to include clinical competency, ability to follow policies and procedures relative to standards of practice and clinical documentation. If during the period of probation, Ms. Van Peursem’s employment as a nurse terminates or should her educational program in the field of nursing terminate, she shall notify the Board of this change to ensure that she remains in compliance with her employment and/or educational quarterly reports.

6. Margaret S. Van Peursem’s employment is restricted during the period of probation to structured settings with on-site supervision by another registered professional nurse. Structured settings shall not include assignments from temporary employment agencies, school nursing, working as a traveling nurse or working within the correctional system.

7. Margaret S. Van Peursem agrees and understands that her license will remain on probationary status and subject to the terms of this Agreement indefinitely beyond the two year probationary period, until and unless the Board, at Ms. Van Peursem’s written request, votes to terminate Ms. Van Peursem’s probation. When considering whether to terminate the probation, the Board will consider the extent to which Ms. Van Peursem has complied with the provisions of this Agreement.
8. If Ms. Van Peursem fails to meet any of the obligations of this Consent Agreement, the Board may take any disciplinary action, which it deems appropriate and impose any of the sanctions, including but not limited to that found in Title 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003 and Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A.

9. The State of Maine is a “party state” that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact (“Compact”), which is set out in Chapter 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. The State of Maine is Ms. Van Peursem’s “home state” of licensure and primary state of residence, which means that Ms. Van Peursem has declared that the State of Maine is her fixed permanent and principle home for legal purposes; her domicile. Other party states that are in the Compact are referred to as “remote states,” which means a party state, other than the home state that has adopted the Compact. Ms. Van Peursem understands that this document is a Consent Agreement that is subject to the Compact. Ms. Van Peursem agrees that during the pendency of this Consent Agreement her nursing practice may be limited to the State of Maine as it pertains to the Compact. If Ms. Van Peursem wishes to practice in any other party state within the Compact she shall arrange to have the party state, in which she intends to practice, provide the Board with written authorization that she has been approved to practice in that state.

10. This Consent Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S.A. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 408.

11. Margaret S. Van Peursem understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Consent Agreement.

12. Margaret S. Van Peursem affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.

13. Modification of this Consent Agreement must in writing and signed by all the parties.

14. This Consent Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
15. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, MARGARET S. VAN PEURSEM, R.N., 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: 4/25/08

MARGARET S. VAN PEURSEM, R.N.

DATED: 4/25/08

CHARLES E. GILBERT III, ESQ.
Attorney for Margaret S. Van Peursem

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 5/1/08

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

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: 4/30/08

JOHN H. RICHARDS
Assistant Attorney General