

State of Vermont
Vermont Board of Nursing

In re: Christine Strobl
License Number 026.0097155
Docket Number: 2022-28

Order to Remove Conditions

On June 10, 2024, the Vermont Board of Nursing considered Christine Strobl's request for Removal of Conditions imposed pursuant to a Stipulation & Consent Order under Docket Number 2022-28. Ms. Strobl has successfully met the conditions. After review of the follow-up file, the State does not object to removal of all conditions.

Order:

The Board hereby removes all conditons from Christine Strobl's RN license.

Vermont Board of Nursing

DocuSigned by:

Jennifer Laurent

EB1741913719477...

Jennifer Laurent, Chair

Date: June 10, 2024

Date of Entry:

6, 10, 24



State of Vermont
Office of the Secretary of State

Office of Professional Regulation
89 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402
sos.vermont.gov

Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Secretary of State
S. Lauren Hibbert, Deputy Secretary
Kevin Rushing, Director

May 13, 2024

Ultan Doyle, Esq.
Office of Professional Regulation
89 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

Case: Christine Strobl
Credential: License # 025.0097155
Docket No: 2022-28

Dear Attorney Doyle:

Please find the enclosed Request to remove conditions filed on the above captioned docket number. Pursuant to the Office of Professional Regulation's Administrative Rule 3.8 you have 10 days to respond to the motion.

You may contact me at (802) 828-2367 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Julie Bowen
Docket Clerk

Enc: *Request to*

Cc: Kristin Donnelly, Case Manager
Christine Strobl, Respondent

From: Christine Strobl
To: SOS - Docket Clerk
Subject: Christine Strobl Petition to Remove Conditions on LPN License #025.0097155
Date: Monday, May 13, 2024 12:58:32 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Julie Bowen,

I would like to Petition the State to find the STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER, Docket No. 2022-28, dated November 15, 2022, to be completed. Here is my petition:

Christine Strobl

Petition to Remove All Conditions of STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Docket No. 2022-28

I, Christine Strobl, in respect to the above referenced Docket No. 2022-28 hereby PETITIONS the STATE of VERMONT to remove any and all conditions to my LPN License #025.0097155 thereby reinstating it to be fully in good standing with no conditions.

I, Christine Strobl, have fully complied with and fulfilled all conditions that commenced on November 15, 2022 for the required one (1) year which is complete as of this day, May 13, 2024.

In summary, I have successfully:

*Completed one year of supervised licensed practical nursing practice in which I worked at least eighty (80) hours for twelve (12) calendar months.

*Successfully completed the NCSBN online course entitled "Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing ", at my own expense, within ninety (90) days of the date of entry of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

*Successfully completed submission to random drug and alcohol testing for the required period of six (6) months. All submissions were negative.

*Successfully abstained from the consumption or possession of alcohol and drugs.

*Successfully provided a copy of the Stipulation and Consent Order to all employers and informed them of my conditional license status. I have caused my immediate supervisors to submit to the Board the employer agreement form acknowledging receipt as well as the ability to comply with the conditions in the Consent Order.

*Every nursing employer has submitted to the Board an evaluation of work performance and attendance during that month of employment for the required twelve (12) calendar months.

*Successfully practiced as a Licensed Practical Nurse only in a setting where there has been on-site supervision for the entire shift by a licensed registered nurse in good standing with the Board.

*I have not worked in a supervisory role, for a nurse registry, traveling nurse agency, float pool, home health care agency, temporary employment agency, as a private duty nurse or a personal care provider.

* I have not had cause to work Out-Of-State.

*Successfully, within forty-eight (48) hours of any change in employment, notified the Board of place of employment, address and telephone number.

*Communicated fully regarding all matters with my case manager, Kristen Donnelly.

I am petitioning the State of Vermont to modify this Stipulation and Consent Order to be completed as of this day, May 13, 2024.

Section 2: Ordered November 15, 2022

Section 19: Ordered November 15, 2022

I thank you very much for your time and attention,

Christine Strobl

License # 025.0097155

**STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING**

IN RE:)
Christine Strobl) **Docket No. 2022-28**
License No. 026.0097155)

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

STIPULATION

NOW COMES the State of Vermont, by and through Prosecuting Attorney Ultan Doyle, and Respondent Christine Strobl, by and through her counsel Edward G. Adrian, Esq., who hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

Board Authority

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the "Board") has authority to issue warnings or reprimands; suspend, revoke, limit, or condition current licenses; or prevent the renewal of lapsed licenses if, after disciplinary hearing, the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in unprofessional conduct. 3 V.S.A. §129(a); 3 V.S.A. §129a; 3 V.S.A. §814(d); 26 V.S.A. Chapter 28; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

Stipulated Facts

2. Christine Strobl ("Respondent") of Bradford, Vermont is licensed by the State of Vermont as a Licensed Practical Nurse ("LPN") under license number 026.0097155. This license was originally issued on August 15, 2013 and expires on January 31, 2024.
3. During the relevant time period, Respondent was employed as an LPN by the White River Junction VA Medical Center ("the Facility") in White River Junction, Vermont.
4. On March 20, 2019, the Facility's Residential Recovery Center ("the RRC") Assistant RN manger asked the Facility's Compliance Officer to run a Pyxis report for Respondent for the previous 24 hours. This request was made because Respondent had in recent months been making medication errors.
5. The report revealed several medications had not been administered, including two tablets of Oxycodone HCL 20mg for a patient who had not been at the RRC since December 10, 2018.

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6. Based on this information, the Compliance Officer had the pharmacy run a 30-day report for all of Respondent's Pyxis access:
7. An RN employed at the Facility reviewed the 30-day report and discovered at least 9 times when Respondent had accessed Buprenorphine from the Pyxis display of a patient who had been discharged on December 14, 2018. The RN also noted that Respondent had removed Buprenorphine twice and Oxycodone twice for a patient who had been discharged on December 10, 2018.
8. The Facility's Pharmacy Chief checked all of the RRC employees' access to Pyxis to ensure there was not a discrepancy with the biometric Pyxis scanner and did not find any. The Pharmacy Chief also determined that patient care had not been affected because only extra doses of medication had been removed. The Pharmacy Chief checked to ensure that all of the patients had a valid prescription to ensure that the medication dispensed was reflected in the patients' records.
9. Six patients (D2, D1, P1, G, L, P2) were determined to have medication administration irregularities associated with Respondent. A review of these patients' medication administration records revealed that on 23 separate occasions in February and March of 2019, Respondent completed an override on the Facility's Pyxis and withdrawn 1 Buprenorphine tablet without a doctor's order for this medication. Also, in this same period, Respondent withdrew 3 Oxycodone tablets for a patient who had been previously discharged.
10. On April 2, 2019, Respondent was interviewed by the Deputy Chief of the Facility and an investigator from the Office of Inspector General and told them that she began diverting medication around August of 2018 by taking 1-2 tablets of Suboxone a week.
11. Respondent advised that she obtained this medication by overriding the Pyxis machine at work.
12. Respondent stated that she accessed nonactive patients in Pyxis and started splitting $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets to use at home.
13. Respondent indicated that she removed the tablets out of Pyxis and put them into her pocket.
14. Respondent said that she started removing medication from Pyxis in August of 2018 and continued doing so until approximately mid-March of 2019, when she could no longer get back onto the unit where she had been removing the medication.
15. On at least one occasion, Respondent stated that she removed three tablets for an in-house patient, where the patient's prescription was written for two, and kept the extra tablet.
16. Respondent admitted to taking approximately twenty 8 mg tablets between August 2018 and March 2019.

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17. Respondent also admitted to removing 2 OxyContin 10mg tablets from Pyxis in mid-March of 2019.
18. As a result of the investigation carried out by the Facility, the Facility terminated Respondent's employment on July 8, 2019.
19. On her own initiative, Respondent took random drug/alcohol tests from FS Solutions in April, May, June and August, 2021. The results of all tests were negative. Respondent also took drug/alcohol tests at the request of the State between April 20, 2022 and June 30, 2022. The State was satisfied with the results of these additional random tests.

Violation One: 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(2) Diverting or attempting to divert drugs or equipment or supplies for unauthorized use.

20. Paragraphs 2 through 19 above are incorporated herein.
21. As an LPN, Respondent is prohibited from diverting drugs for unauthorized use.
22. Paragraphs 2 through 19 above demonstrate that Respondent diverted drugs from the Facility.
23. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(2).

Violation Two: 3 V.S.A. §1582(a)(3) Engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.

24. Paragraphs 2 through 19 above are incorporated herein.
25. As an LPN, Respondent is required to refrain from engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.
26. Paragraphs 2 through 19 demonstrate that Respondent engaged in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public by intentionally making medication removals from a Pyxis machine without valid prescriptions or a valid reason for doing so.
27. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public in violation of 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(3).

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Violation Three: 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(7) Willfully making or filing false reports or records in the practice of the profession, willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records, or willfully failing to file the proper reports or records.

28. Paragraphs 2 through 19 above are incorporated herein.
29. As an LPN, Respondent is required to make and file accurate reports and records in the practice of the profession and must refrain from willfully making or filing false reports or records and from willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records.
30. Paragraphs 2 through 19 demonstrate that Respondent willfully made and filed false reports and records in the practice of the profession and willfully impeded or obstructed the proper making or filing of reports or records by falsely attributing the administration of medication to patients, when in fact she was taking that medication for herself.
31. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by willfully making and filing false reports in the practice of the profession and willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(7).

Understandings

32. Respondent admits the facts above are true and that the conditions below are necessary to protect the public.
33. Respondent understands that the Nursing Board must review and accept the terms of the Consent Order. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Stipulation and Consent Order shall be null and void.
34. Respondent specifically waives any claims that any disclosures made to the full Board during its review of this agreement have prejudiced her rights to a fair and impartial hearing in future hearings if this agreement is not accepted by the Board.
35. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
36. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signs this Stipulation and Consent Order.
37. Respondent voluntarily enters into this agreement after the opportunity to consult with legal counsel and is not being coerced by anyone into signing this Stipulation and Consent Order.

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38. Respondent voluntarily waives her right to a contested hearing before the Board of Nursing and waives any right to appeal from this Stipulation and Consent Order.
39. Respondent agrees that the Order set forth below may be entered by the Board, will be a binding Order upon Respondent, and will be made public.
40. Respondent understands that Respondent is responsible for all compliance costs associated with this Stipulation and Consent Order and any violation of this Order may result in additional disciplinary action.

ORDER

Based on the Stipulation above, it is **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

- A. The Board of Nursing hereby **REPRIMANDS** Respondent's license.
- B. The Board of Nursing hereby **CONDITIONS** the Respondent's license for a **MINIMUM OF ONE (1) YEAR**, commencing with the date of entry of this Stipulation and Consent Order. The **CONDITIONS** shall be as follows:
 1. Re-issuance of License. Upon the commencement of these conditions and the renewal of Respondent's license, Respondent shall be issued a license labeled "conditioned."
 2. Length of Time of Conditions Imposed. The conditions shall remain in place until Respondent has completed all conditions ordered. Respondent shall be subject to the conditions until Respondent completes a **minimum of one (1) year** of supervised registered nursing practice in which Respondent works at least eighty (80) hours every calendar month as a registered nurse. Part time hours of fewer than eighty (80) hours every calendar month shall be credited on a prorated basis. Respondent shall be prohibited from working more than forty (40) hours per week.
 3. Monitoring. The Office of Professional Regulation, through the Enforcement Case Manager, shall be responsible for monitoring Respondent's compliance with these Conditions. All reports or correspondence regarding compliance with these conditions shall be submitted to the Case Manager in accordance with the Conditions listed below.
 4. Required Coursework. Respondent shall, at her own expense and within ninety (90) days of the date of entry of this Stipulation and Consent Order, successfully complete (i.e., receive a passing score, if applicable) the NCSBN online course entitled "Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing") and submit test results, workbooks completed to the satisfaction of the Case Manager, and certificates of completion to the Office of Professional Regulation.

Failure to successfully complete the course within the prescribed timeframe shall constitute a violation of this Order. The coursework may not be counted toward any continuing education requirement of licensure.

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5. Random Drug and Alcohol Testing. Respondent shall submit to random drug and alcohol testing through the designated entity. All testing shall be done on a random, unannounced basis and analyzed by a lab qualified to analyze samples for forensic purposes. All specimens collected for tests shall be collected in an observed setting. All test results shall be negative.

Failure to appear for, refusal to provide, adulteration of, dilution of, or tampering with a sample for any test shall cause that test result to be presumed positive. Any positive test result shall constitute a violation of this Order. Failure to check-in to determine whether Respondent is selected for testing on any given day, regardless of whether Respondent is actually selected that day, may be considered a violation of this Order.

This condition may be removed only by Respondent filing a petition with the Board after Respondent has fully complied with the random testing requirement for a minimum period of six (6) months. The State shall consent or object to any such petition, and a hearing may be held. In any such petition, Respondent must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Nursing Board, full compliance with this provision.

6. Abstain from Drug and Alcohol Use. Respondent shall abstain completely from the consumption or possession of alcohol and drugs.
7. Drug Use Exception. Respondent may take scheduled/controlled medications lawfully prescribed for a bona fide illness or condition by a health care practitioner disclosed to the Case Manager in writing by Respondent within forty-eight (48) hours of the prescription. If requested by the Enforcement Case Manager, Respondent's health care practitioner shall acknowledge, in writing and on appropriate letterhead, an understanding of Respondent's substance abuse issue(s) within seven (7) days of entering into the practitioner/patient relationship. Additionally, the practitioner shall inform the Case Manager of all scheduled/controlled medications prescribed – and the anticipation of how long such prescriptions will need to be taken – within seven (7) days of the prescription.

The Case Manager may request that the practitioner document the necessity for the prescribed scheduled/controlled medications or other medications known to have abuse potential.

Respondent shall provide the Case Manager with a current medication list of any medications taken on a scheduled or as-needed basis on forms issued by the Case Manager within seven (7) days of the date of reinstatement and shall update this list within forty-eight (48) hours of any change in these medications or when requested by the Case Manager.

8. Notification to Employers/Nursing School. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Stipulation and Consent Order to all employers in any current or future setting in which Respondent practices as a nurse and inform them of Respondent's conditional

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license status. Within ten (10) days of the date of entry of this Consent Order or of any subsequent nursing employment, Respondent shall cause Respondent's immediate supervisor to submit to the Board an employer agreement form approved by the Board, acknowledging receipt of the Stipulation and Consent Order and the ability to comply with the conditions in the Consent Order.

In the event Respondent is attending a nursing program which has a clinical portion that involves actual patient care, Respondent shall provide a copy of the Stipulation and Consent Order to the Program Director. Respondent shall cause the Program Director to submit to the Board a nursing program agreement form approved by the Board, acknowledging receipt of the Stipulation and Consent Order and the ability of the program to comply with the conditions in the Consent Order during clinical experience.

9. Reports from Employers/Program Director. Within one (1) month of the date of reinstatement or within one (1) month of the commencement of nursing employment and **monthly** thereafter, Respondent shall cause every nursing employer Respondent has worked for during the month to submit to the Board an evaluation of Respondent's work performance and attendance during that month. In the event Respondent is attending a nursing program, Respondent shall cause the Program Director to submit to the Board, on a monthly basis, a written evaluation of Respondent's performance and attendance. These reports shall be submitted in writing on forms issued by the Board. All employer reports shall indicate satisfactory performance (i.e., consistently meeting all standards of nursing practice) and attendance.
10. Practice Under Supervision. Respondent shall practice as a registered nurse only in a setting where Respondent has on-site supervision for the entire shift by a licensed registered nurse that is in good standing with the Board.
11. Types of Employment Prohibited. Respondent shall not work in a supervisory role. Respondent shall not work for a nurse registry, traveling nurse agency, float-pool, home health care agency, temporary nursing employment agency, or as a private duty nurse or personal care provider requiring a nursing or nursing assistant license during the effective period of this Consent Order.
12. Interview with the Board or its Designee. Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee upon request.
13. Out-of-State Practice. Before any out-of-state practice can be credited toward fulfillment of these terms and conditions, Respondent shall first obtain approval from the Board or its designee. The Board will approve out-of-state nursing practice so long as Respondent can still comply with the provisions of this Consent Order. If Respondent receives discipline on a nursing license held in another state during the conditioned period, Respondent must inform the Board of such, in writing, within ten (10) days of receiving such discipline.

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14. Notification of Place of Employment/Personal Address/Telephone Number. Within ten (10) days of the date of entry of this Consent Order, Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, of Respondent's current place of employment, personal address, and telephone number. Respondent shall further notify the Board, in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of any change in employment (including resignation or termination), personal address, or telephone number.
 15. Notification to Other States. In the event that Respondent is licensed in nursing in any other state(s), Respondent must inform the nursing licensing board of the state(s) in which Respondent is licensed of the conditional status of Respondent's Vermont nursing license within thirty (30) days of the date of entry of this Order.
 16. License Renewal. This Order does not automatically extend the license and Respondent must comply with the requirements for license renewal.
 17. Costs. Respondent shall bear all costs of complying with this Consent Order.
 18. Violation of this Order. If Respondent violates this Order the Board, after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may rescind or modify this Order and impose additional appropriate disciplinary actions. If a complaint of unprofessional conduct is made against Respondent during the term of this Order, this Order shall be automatically extended until the unprofessional conduct matter is concluded.
 19. Completion of Conditional License Period. Respondent shall submit a petition to the Docket Clerk to remove any and all conditions on Respondent's license. The State will assent to or oppose Respondent's petition. The Board will conduct a hearing if necessary. Respondent bears the burden and must present proof that Respondent has fully complied with the terms of this Order and these conditions are no longer necessary to protect the public.
- B. Notwithstanding any provision above, the Respondent must continue to meet all Board requirements for maintaining a license, license renewal and license reinstatement.
- C. This Stipulation and Consent Order is a matter of public record and may be reported to other licensing authorities as provided in 3 V.S.A. §129(a).
- D. This Stipulation and Consent Order will remain part of Respondent's licensing file and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

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AGREED TO:

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: 9/7/22

By: Ultan Doyle
Ultan Doyle, Esq.
State Prosecuting Attorney

Dated: 10/8/22

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Dated: 10/11/22

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Dated: 11/15/22

Date of Entry: 11/15/22

CHRISTINE STROBL
RESPONDENT

By: Christine Strobl

MONAGHAN SAFAR DUCHAM PLLC
ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

By: Edward G. Adrian, Esq.

VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

DocuSigned by:
By: Jennifer Laurent
Chairperson

STATE OF VERMONT



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**STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING**

IN RE:	)	
Christine Strobl	)	Docket No. 2022-28
License No. 026.0097155	)	

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

NOW COMES the State of Vermont and makes the following Charges against the Respondent, Christine Strobl:

Board Authority

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the "Board") has authority to issue warnings or reprimands; suspend, revoke, limit, or condition current licenses; or prevent the renewal of lapsed licenses if, after disciplinary hearing, the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in unprofessional conduct. 3 V.S.A. § 129(a); 3 V.S.A. § 129a; 3 V.S.A. § 814(d); 26 V.S.A. Chapter 28; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

Statement of Facts

2. Christine Strobl ("Respondent") of Bradford, Vermont is licensed by the State of Vermont as a Licensed Practical Nurse ("LPN") under license number 026.0097155. This license was originally issued on August 15, 2013 and expires on January 31, 2024.
3. During the relevant time period, Respondent was employed as an LPN by the White River Junction VA Medical Center ("the Facility") in White River Junction, Vermont.
4. On March 20, 2019, the Facility's Residential Recovery Center ("the RRC") Assistant RN manger asked the Facility's Compliance Officer to run a Pyxis report for Respondent for the previous 24 hours. This request was made because Respondent had in recent months been making medication errors.
5. The report revealed several medications had not been administered, including two tablets of Oxycodone HCL 20mg for a patient who had not been at the RRC since December 10, 2018.
6. Based on this information, the Compliance Officer had the pharmacy run a 30-day report for all of Respondent's Pyxis access.
7. An RN employed at the Facility reviewed the 30-day report and discovered at least 9 times when Respondent had accessed Buprenorphine from the Pyxis display of a patient who had been discharged on December 14, 2018. The RN also noted that

Respondent had removed Buprenorphine twice and Oxycodone twice for a patient who had been discharged on December 10, 2018.

8. The Facility's Pharmacy Chief checked all of the RRC employees' access to Pyxis to ensure there was not a discrepancy with the biometric Pyxis scanner and did not find any. The Pharmacy Chief also determined that patient care had not been affected because only extra doses of medication had been removed. The Pharmacy Chief checked to ensure that all of the patients had a valid prescription to ensure that the medication dispensed was reflected in the patients' records.
9. Six patients (D2, D1, P1, G, L, P2) were determined to have medication administration irregularities associated with Respondent. A review of these patients' medication administration records revealed the following:
 - a. On February 18, 2019, at 18:19:38, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D2. Patient D2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered at 8:00AM and 12:00PM. Respondent had previously removed the medication at 8:00:51AM and 12:05:23PM.
 - b. On February 19, 2019, at 20:12:22, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D2. Patient D2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered at 8:00AM and 12:00PM. Respondent had previously removed the medication at 07:59:09AM and 12:12:25PM.
 - c. On February 19, 2019, at 20:06:29, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - d. On February 19, 2019, at 20:44:52, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - e. On February 25, 2019, at 20:01:26, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - f. On February 26, 2019, at 19:39:10, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - g. On February 27, 2019, at 18:56:10, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG/NALOXONE 2MG SUBLINGUAL (Suboxone) for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - h. On February 27, 2019, at 18:56:34, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
 - i. On March 3, 2019, at 19:07:16, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D2. Patient D2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered at 8:00AM and 12:00PM. Respondent had previously removed the medication at 09:42:50AM and 17:05:48PM.

- j. On March 3, 2019, at 19:08:34, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient P1. Patient P1 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 8MG in the morning and 8MG at 2:00PM. Two 8MG BUPRENORPHINE had previously been removed at 08:59:50 and 13:57:29PM.
- k. On March 4, 2019, at 19:36:50, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- l. On March 4, 2019, at 19:37:31, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- m. On March 5, 2019, at 18:45:46, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient G. Patient G did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- n. On March 5, 2019, at 18:47:21, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG/NALOXONE 2MG SUBLINGUAL (Suboxone) for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- o. On March 11, 2019, at 19:31:03, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient D2. Patient D2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered at 8:00AM and 12:00PM. Respondent had previously removed the medication at 08:52:39AM and 1 7:39:45PM.
- p. On March 11, 2019, at 19:32:02, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG/NALOXONE 2MG SUBLINGUAL (Suboxone) for Patient L. Patient L did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 8MG in the morning, 2MG with lunch, and 2MG with dinner. Respondent had previously removed the medication at 08:37:24AM, 17:41:36PM, and 17:42:54PM.
- q. On March 12, 2019, at 19:39:46, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient L. Patient L did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 8MG in the morning, 2MG with lunch, and 2MG with dinner. Respondent had previously removed 8MG 08:25:57AM and 4MG at 17:59:17PM.
- r. On March 12, 2019, at 19:40:31, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient P1. Patient P1 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 8MG in the morning and 8MG at 2:00PM. Two 8MG BUPRENORPHINE had previously been removed at 08: 1 4:59AM and 13:56:49PM.
- s. On March 13, 2019, at 18:52:10, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 3 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- t. On March 13, 2019, at 18:53:21, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG/NALOXONE 2MG SUB LINGUAL (Suboxone) for Patient D1. Patient D1 did not have a doctor's order for this medication.
- u. On March 17, 2019, at 20:59:03, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 3 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 8MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient G. Patient G did not have a doctor's order for this medication.

- v. On March 18, 2019, at 15:40:37, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 2MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient P2. Patient P2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 4MG (2x2MG Pills) twice daily for a total of 8MG until March 13, 2019. The prescription then changed to 8MG twice daily beginning March 14, 2019. Patient P2 received an 8MG dose at 08:29:09AM and again at 17:57:07PM.
 - w. On March 18, 2019, at 15:40:37, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of BUPRENORPHINE 2MG SUBLINGUAL for Patient P2. Patient P2 did have a doctor's order for this medication to be administered 4MG (2x2MG Pills) twice daily for a total of 8MG until March 13, 2019. The prescription then changed to 8MG twice daily beginning March 14, 2019. Patient P2 received an 8MG dose at 08:29:09AM and again at 17:57:07PM.
 - x. On March 18, 2019, at 20:12:54, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 1 tablet of OXYCODONE HCL 20MG CR for Patient G. Patient G had not been in the RCC since December 10, 2018, when he was discharged.
 - y. On March 19, 2019, at 18:33:58, Respondent completed an override on the Pyxis and withdrew 2 tablets of OXYCODONE HCL 20MG CR for Patient G. Patient G had not been in the RRC since December 10, 2018, when he was discharged.
- 10. On April 2, 2019, Respondent was interviewed by the Deputy Chief of the Facility and an investigator from the Office of Inspector General and told them that she began diverting medication around August of 2018 by taking 1-2 tablets of Suboxone a week.
 - 11. Respondent advised that she obtained this medication by overriding the Pyxis machine at work.
 - 12. Respondent stated that she accessed nonactive patients in Pyxis and started splitting ½ tablets to use at home.
 - 13. Respondent indicated that she removed the tablets out of Pyxis and put them into her pocket.
 - 14. Respondent said that she started removing medication from Pyxis in August of 2018 and continued doing so until approximately mid-March of 2019, when she could no longer get back onto the unit where she had been removing the medication.
 - 15. On at least one occasion, Respondent stated that she removed three tablets for an in-house patient, where the patient's prescription was written for two, and kept the extra tablet.
 - 16. Respondent admitted to taking approximately twenty 8 mg tablets between August 2018 and March 2019.
 - 17. Respondent also admitted to removing 2 OxyContin 10mg tablets from Pyxis in mid-March of 2019.
 - 18. As a result of the investigation carried out by the Facility, the Facility terminated Respondent's employment on July 8, 2019.

Violation One: 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(2) Diverting or attempting to divert drugs or equipment or supplies for unauthorized use.

19. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 18 above.
20. As an LPN, Respondent is prohibited from diverting drugs for unauthorized use.
21. Paragraphs 2 through 18 above demonstrate that Respondent diverted drugs from the Facility.
22. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(2).

Violation Two: 3 V.S.A. §1582(a)(3) Engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.

23. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 18 above.
24. As an LPN, Respondent is required to refrain from engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.
25. Paragraphs 2 through 18 demonstrate that Respondent engaged in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public by intentionally making medication removals from a Pyxis machine without valid prescriptions or a valid reason for doing so.
26. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public in violation of 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(3).

Violation Three: 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(7) Willfully making or filing false reports or records in the practice of the profession, willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records, or willfully failing to file the proper reports or records.

27. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 18 above.
28. As an LPN, Respondent is required to make and file accurate reports and records in the practice of the profession and must refrain from willfully making or filing false reports or records and from willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records.
29. Paragraphs 2 through 18 demonstrate that Respondent willfully made and filed false reports and records in the practice of the profession and willfully impeded or obstructed the proper making or filing of reports or records by falsely attributing the administration of medication to patients, when in fact she was taking that medication for herself.

30. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by willfully making and filing false reports in the practice of the profession and willfully impeding or obstructing the proper making or filing of reports or records in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(7).

Violation Four: 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(15) Failing to exercise independent professional judgment in the performance of licensed activities when that judgment is necessary to avoid action repugnant to the obligations of the profession.

31. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 18 above.
32. As an LPN, Respondent is required to exercise her own independent professional judgment in the performance of licensed activities when that judgment is necessary to avoid action repugnant to the obligations of the profession.
33. Paragraphs 2 through 18 demonstrate that Respondent failed to exercise independent professional judgment by diverting narcotics and using deceit to cloak her diversion on multiple occasions.
34. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by diverting narcotics from the Facility and deceiving her colleagues to cover up her diversion in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(15).

Relief Requested

WHEREFORE, the license of Christine Strobl should be revoked, suspended, reprimanded, conditioned, or otherwise disciplined.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 23rd day of February, 2022.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By:


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