

State of Vermont
Vermont Board of Nursing

In re: Tonya Wilkinson
License Number: 026.0029537
Docket Number: 2024-175

Order to Remove Conditions

On **May 12, 2025**, the Vermont Board of Nursing considered Tonya Wilkinson's request for Removal of Conditions imposed pursuant to a Pre-Charge Stipulation & Consent Order under Docket Number 2024-175. Ms. Wilkinson has met the conditions. After review of the compliance file, the State does not object to removal of all conditions.

Order:

The Board hereby removes all conditions from Tonya Wilkinson's RN license.

Vermont Board of Nursing

Signed by:
William James Floyd III
3B62E76300124BE...
Board Chair

Date: 5/13/25

Date of Entry: 5 / 14 / 25

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

IN RE:)
Tonya Wilkinson) Docket No. 2024-175
License No. 026.0029537)

**STATE'S RESPONSE TO RESPONDENT'S REQUEST TO REMOVE
CONDITIONS**

After review of the compliance file, the State has no objection to Respondent's request to remove all conditions on her license. Attached to this response is a proposed Order should the Board decide to grant Respondent's request.

Respectfully submitted, this 17th day of March 2025.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By: /s/ Rachel Heath
Rachel Heath
State Prosecuting Attorney
802-828-0041
Rachel.Heath@vermont.gov

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
89 Main Street
3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT
05620-3402



State of Vermont
Office of the Secretary of State

Office of Professional Regulation
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Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Secretary of State
S. Lauren Hibbert, Deputy Secretary
Michael D. Warren, Interim Director

March 17, 2025

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

Case: Tonya Wilkinson
Credential: License # 026.0029537
Docket No: 2024-175

Dear Attorney Heath:

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
Tonya (Wilkinson) St. Lawrence, Respondent

March 14, 2025

To Whom this May Concern,

I would like to be considered of having the conditions removed from my nursing license. I have completed the required hours of courses and paid the administrative fine of \$500.

Thank you,

Tonya St Lawrence

RN License number 026.0029537

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

In re: Tonya Wilkinson)
License no. 026.0029537)

Docket No. 2024- 175

Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order

The matter captioned above arises from a complaint made to the Office of Professional Regulation. The parties to the case hereby agree to an expedited resolution of the matter as follows:

Stipulated Facts and Violations

1. Tonya Wilkinson ("Respondent") of Saint Albans, Vermont is licensed as a Registered Nurse ("RN") under license number 026.0029537. The State of Vermont first issued this license on May 12, 2004, and the license expires on March 31, 2025.
2. In February 2023, while working as an RN at a hospital in Vermont, Respondent accessed a chart for a friend of hers 72 times. Respondent was not a nurse for this patient and did not have a legitimate business purpose for this access under HIPAA. Respondent's access included reviewing clinical notes.
3. As a result, the facility terminated her employment.
4. These acts constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(3) (Failure to comply with provisions of federal or State statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession, incorporating 45 C.F.R. § 164.502 [the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA")] and 18 V.S.A. § 1881 [the state law incorporating HIPAA protections]).

Understandings

5. Respondent admits the facts above are true and the conditions below are necessary to protect the public.
6. Respondent understands that this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order will be reviewed and the tribunal may accept or reject the Order set forth below. If the tribunal rejects all or any portion of the Order, then this entire document shall be null and void.
7. Respondent specifically waives any claim that any disclosures made to the tribunal during its review of this agreement prejudice Respondent's right to a fair and impartial hearing if this agreement is not accepted and proceeds to a merits hearing before the same tribunal.

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8. Respondent has read this document fully and agrees it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
9. This Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order is entered into voluntarily by Respondent after the opportunity to consult with legal counsel. Respondent has not been coerced by anyone into signing this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order.
10. Respondent voluntarily waives the right to a contested hearing and waives any right to appeal this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order.
11. Respondent is of sound mind and is not under the influence of drugs or alcohol when signing this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order.
12. Respondent agrees the Order set forth below may be entered, will be a binding Order upon Respondent, and will be made public.
13. Respondent understands that Respondent is responsible for all compliance costs associated with this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order and any violation of this Order may result in additional disciplinary action.

ORDER

Based upon the above stipulation, it is **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

- A. The Board of Nursing hereby **REPRIMANDS** Respondent's license.
- B. The Board of Nursing hereby **CONDITIONS** Respondent's license commencing with the date of entry of this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order:
 1. Re-issuance of License. Upon the commencement of these conditions, Respondent shall be issued a license labeled "conditioned."
 2. License Renewal. This Order does not automatically extend the license and Respondent must comply with the requirements for license renewal.
 3. Required Coursework. Respondent shall, at her own expense and within ninety (90) days of the date of entry of this Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order, satisfactorily complete a minimum of twelve-hours of coursework pre-approved by the Enforcement Case Manager that pertains to HIPAA, boundary violations, and ethics. Respondent must provide satisfactorily completed workbooks (if any) and certificates of completion to the Case Manager.

*Coursework may not be counted toward any continuing education requirement of licensure.

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- C. Upon compliance with and completion of all required conditions, Respondent must petition to remove any or all conditions from the license and demonstrate full compliance with the Order.
- D. Respondents shall pay an **ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY** in the amount of \$500.00. This Penalty shall be paid within six months of the date of entry of this Order.
- E. Notwithstanding any provision above, Respondent must continue to meet all requirements to maintain licensure, for license renewal, and for license reinstatement.
- F. This Pre-Charge 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).
- G. This Pre-Charge Stipulation and Consent Order will remain part of Respondent's licensing file and may be considered relative to any future disciplinary matter.

AGREED TO:

**STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE**

Dated: 10/14/2024

By: ^{Signed by:}
Rachel Heath
FGA240970202420...
Rachel Heath
Prosecuting Attorney

RESPONDENT

Dated: 9/30/2024

By: ^{Signed by:}
TW
3280947FGA10400...
Tonya Wilkinson

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Dated: 12/9/24

By: ^{Signed by:}
Jennifer Laurent
EB1741015719477...
Jennifer Laurent
Board Chairperson

Date of Entry: 12/9/24

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