

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

IN RE:)
Tina Tripodina) **Docket No. 2025-180**
License No. 026.0151721)

ORDER TO REMOVE CONDITIONS

On May 10, 2026, the Board considered Respondent's request for removal of conditions imposed pursuant to a Stipulation and Consent Order in this matter. Respondent has met all conditions imposed. After review of the compliance file, the State does not object to the removal of conditions from Respondent's license.

Therefore, it is ORDERED that all conditions be removed from Respondent's license.

SO ORDERED, this 5/11/2026

VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

By: Signed by:
William James Floyd III
Chairperson.

Date of entry: 5/12/26

STATE OF VERMONT



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

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OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING**

IN RE:)
Tina Tripodina) **Docket No. 2025-180**
License No. 026.0151721)

STATE'S RESPONSE TO PETITION TO REMOVE CONDITIONS

After a review of the compliance file, the State has no objection to Respondent's request to remove conditions from their license. Filed contemporaneously with this response is a proposed order should the Board decide to grant Respondent's request.

DATED this 13th day of April 2026.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE
By: *George Hasselback*
George Lloyd Hasselback
Prosecuting Attorney
(802) 828-0350
george.hasselback@vermont.gov

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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
Michael D. Warren, Interim Director

April 7, 2026

Attorney George Hasselback, Esq.
Office of Professional Regulation
89 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

Case: Tina Tripodina
Credential: License # 026.0151721
Docket No: 2025-180

Dear Attorney Hasselback,

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 Remove Conditions*

Cc: Kristin Donnelly, Case Manager
Tina Tripodina, Respondent

Tina Tripodina 145 Main St. Ludlow VT, 05149

(802) 275-2435 Vermont RN License #026.0151721

Date: 4/6/2026

Vermont Board of Nursing Office of Professional Regulation 89 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

Re: Petition to Remove Conditions on Nursing License

Dear Members of the Vermont Board of Nursing,

I am writing to respectfully petition the Board to lift the conditions placed on my Vermont nursing license. I appreciate the Board's guidance and oversight throughout this process, and I am grateful for the opportunity to demonstrate my commitment to professional accountability and safe nursing practice.

As required by the Board's order dated **3/11/2026**, I have successfully completed the mandated education related to HIPAA regulations. completed on **4/5/2026**.

This educational experience has strengthened my understanding of patient privacy, confidentiality, and the legal and ethical responsibilities associated with protected health information. I have taken time to reflect on the circumstances that led to this requirement and have implemented safeguards in my daily practice to ensure full compliance with HIPAA standards. These include:

- Increased vigilance in handling patient information
- Improved documentation and communication practices
- Consistent adherence to facility policies and federal privacy regulations

I am committed to maintaining these practices and upholding the highest standards of professionalism moving forward.

With the required condition now fully satisfied, I respectfully request that the Board consider restoring my license to full, unencumbered status. I welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information or documentation the Board may need.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to protecting the public and supporting the professional growth of nurses in Vermont.

Sincerely, **Tina Tripodina,**

Vermont Nursing License #026.0151721

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IN RE:)
Tina Tripodina) Docket No. 2025-180
License No. 026.0151721)

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

STIPULATION

NOW COME the State of Vermont, by and through Prosecuting Attorney George Hasselback and Respondent Tina Tripodina who hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

Board Authority

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the "Board") has jurisdiction to investigate and adjudicate allegations of unprofessional conduct committed by Registered Nurses ("RNs") pursuant to 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 ("OPR").

Statement of Facts

2. Tina Tripodina ("Respondent") of Guilford, VT, holds a license to practice as an RN under license number 026.0151721. This license was originally issued on June 20, 2023, and expires on March 31, 2027.
3. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was employed as an RN at a hospital located in Brattleboro, VT ("the Facility").
4. On or about May 25, 2024, Respondent accessed the electronic medical records of a former patient of the facility identified by the initials "NC" without any legitimate, medically-related reason for doing so.
5. On or about May 26, 2024, Respondent accessed NC's electronic medical records again, without any legitimate, medically-related reason for doing so.

Violation One: 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(3) Failing to comply with provisions of federal or State statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession.

6. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 5 above.
7. Respondent is required to comply with provisions of federal or State statutes or rules governing the practice of the profession.

STATE OF VERMONT



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8. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") is a federal law which states that a covered entity may not use or disclose a patient's protected health information for a purpose other than treatment, payment, or health care operations of the Facility, except when the individual authorizes or as law requires. *See* 45 C.F.R. § 164.502; 18 V.S.A. § 1881(the Vermont Statute incorporating HIPAA protections).
9. A "covered entity" would include Respondent in her capacity as a health care provider working at the Facility. *See* 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
10. The definition of "use" includes "examination" of individually identifiable health information. *See id.*
11. Paragraphs 2 through 5 demonstrate that Respondent violated 45 C.F.R. §164.502 and 18 V.S.A. §1881 by accessing and examining the confidential medical records of NC on two occasions without any legitimate reason for doing to.
12. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(3).

Understandings

13. Respondent admits the facts above are true and the conditions below are necessary to protect the public.
14. Respondent understands that the 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.
15. Respondent specifically waives any claim that any disclosures made to the Board during review of this agreement have prejudiced Respondent's right to a fair and impartial hearing if this agreement is not accepted and proceeds to a hearing on the merits before the same Board.
16. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
17. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time of signing this Stipulation and Consent Order.
18. 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.
19. Respondent voluntarily waives the right to a contested hearing before the Board and waives any right to appeal from this Stipulation and Consent Order.

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20. Respondent understands that they are responsible for all compliance costs associated with this Stipulation and Consent Order.
21. Respondent agrees the Board may enter the Order set forth below.

ORDER

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

- A. The Board hereby **CONDITIONS** Respondent's license.
- B. The Board hereby **CONDITIONS** Respondent's license for a **MINIMUM OF SIX (6) MONTHS, commencing on the date of entry**. The **CONDITIONS** shall be as follows:
 1. Required Coursework. Prior to petitioning for reinstatement, Respondent shall, at their own expense, successfully complete (i.e., receive a passing score, if applicable) ten (10) hours of online courses, preapproved by the Case Manager, from the National Council of States Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) (or equivalent pre-approved courses by the Enforcement Case Manager) on the subject matter of patient confidentiality and the protection of patient medical information. Respondent shall complete the coursework and materials to the satisfaction of the Case Manager and submit test results, completed workbooks and certificates of completion to the Office of Professional Regulation. The coursework may not be counted toward any continuing education requirement of licensure.
- D. Notwithstanding any provision above, the Respondent must continue to meet all requirements for maintaining a license, license renewal and license reinstatement.
- E. 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).
- F. This Stipulation and Consent Order applies to all licenses this Board issues to Respondent, including future licenses, as provided in 3 V.S.A. § 129(I).
- G. 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.

AGREED TO:

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
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STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: 2-24-2026

By: George Hasselback
George Hasselback
Prosecuting Attorney

Dated: 2/23/26

RESPONDENT

By: [Signature]
Tina Tripodina

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Vermont Board of Nursing

Dated: 3/10/2026

Signed by:
By: William James Floyd III
Chairperson

Date of Entry: 3/11/2026

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Tina Tripodina) **Docket No. 2025-180**
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SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

NOW COMES the State of Vermont and makes the following Charges against the Respondent, Tina Tripodina:

Board Authority

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the “Board”) has jurisdiction to investigate and adjudicate allegations of unprofessional conduct committed by Registered Nurses (“RNs”) pursuant to 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 (“OPR”).

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9. A "covered entity" would include Respondent in her capacity as a health care provider working at the Facility. *See* 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
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11. Paragraphs 2 through 5 demonstrate that Respondent violated 45 C.F.R. §164.502 and 18 V.S.A. §1881 by accessing and examining the confidential medical records of NC on two occasions without any legitimate reason for doing to.
12. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(3).

Relief Requested

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

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 13th day of November, 2025.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By: George Hasselback
George Lloyd Hasselback
Prosecuting Attorney
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