

SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: Eva Harris)
License No.: 075.0142460) Docket No. 2025-84

Prosecutor: George Hasselback, Esq.
Respondent: Did not appear
Hearing Officer: Maxine Jo Grad

DEFAULT ORDER

Findings of Fact

1. The Respondent is licensed to practice as a Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) under license number **075.0142460** issued by the State of Vermont. The license was originally issued on May 2, 2022, and expires on November 30, 2025. At all times in this matter, Respondent was employed as a LNA at a rehabilitation center located in St. Johnsbury, VT.
2. The Hearing Officer held a hearing in the above matter on August 1, 2025, pursuant to 3 VSA Sec. 129(f). The hearing was held electronically pursuant to the Notice of Hearing. The State requested a Default because the Respondent had not responded to the charges in this case. A notice of the hearing on the default was sent to the Respondent's last known address, which is the address on file with the Office of Professional Regulation, on or about July 21, 2025, by first class mail, certified mail, and email. Neither the first-class, certified mail notice nor the email were returned.
3. Specification of Charges were filed in this case on or about June 18, 2025. A copy of the Specification of Charges is attached to this order. The charges were sent to the Respondent's last known address, which is the address on file with the Office of Professional Regulation on June 19, 2025, by certified mail, first-class mail and email. On July 15, the certified mail notice card was returned to OPR with the message unable to forward.
4. No Answer has been filed.
5. Under the Administrative Rules of the Officer of Professional Regulation, Rule 3.4, a default may be entered when an Answer is not filed within the required time period.
6. Upon consideration of the Prosecution's presentation and taking notice of the OPR file, the Hearing Officer of the Board finds Respondent to be in Default. The allegations contained in the Specification of Charges are therefore treated as the facts on which the Board may issue an order of professional discipline. OPR Rule 3.4, 3 V.S.A. § 809(d), and 3 V.S.A. § 814(c).
7. As indicated by the Board's file and the Prosecution's presentation, because Respondent has failed to answer the charges, the factual allegations in the Specification of Charges are treated as if proved. O.P.R. Rule 3.4. Accordingly, the Board may find, based up the finding of Default from this Default Hearing held

pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §809(d), that Respondent has engaged in the unprofessional conduct alleged in the Specification of Charges. The Respondent committed unprofessional conduct by violating: 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(3) Engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public; 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(6) Leaving a nursing assignment without properly advising appropriate personnel; and 3 V.S.A. §129(a)(5): Practicing the profession when medically or psychologically unfit to do so.

8. The State recommended **Indefinite Suspension** of Respondent's privilege to practice as an LNA in the State of Vermont and that Respondent must petition for reinstatement and obtain an independent evaluation within 45 days of requesting reinstatement.

Proposed Order

In accordance with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and consistent with the recommendation by the State, the Board does ORDER that the Respondent's license be

1. Indefinitely Suspended. Respondent must petition for reinstatement.

a. Independent Evaluation. Within forty-five (45) days of requesting reinstatement, Respondent must, at their own expense, obtain an independent evaluation by a pre-approved Vermont-licensed forensic psychologist with experience in mental health evaluation and assessment ("Independent Evaluator"), to determine Respondent's fitness to practice nursing. The Independent Evaluator must verify receipt of the Default Order issued by the Board of Nursing. The results of the Independent Evaluation must be included in a written report that complies with OPR requirements and must indicate that Respondent does not present a risk to the safety, health or welfare of Respondent's co-workers, potential patients, or to the public. If recommended by the Independent Evaluator, Respondent must enter into a treating professional agreement and plan with a preapproved treating professional(s) and follow all recommendations.

2. IF reinstated, Respondent's license **SHALL BE CONDITIONED** pursuant to whatever terms are reasonable at the time of Respondent's reinstatement request, taking into account the Independent Evaluation, the Board of Nursing Order, and any other relevant factors at that time.

3. This Order is a matter of public record and may be reported to other licensing authorities as provided in 3 V.S.A. § 129(a).

4. This Order will remain part of Respondent's licensing file and may be used for purposes of determining sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

The Hearing Officer reports the above findings of facts, conclusions of law, and the proposed order to the Board or Director with the recommendation that the Board or Director approve them and enter the Order as above.

Dated this 6th day of August 2025.

/s/

Maxine Jo Grad, Hearing Officer
Vermont Board of Nursing

The Vermont Board of Nursing, or the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation, considered the report of findings of fact and conclusions of law on 8/11/2025. After considering the report, the Hearing Authority takes the following action:

- / / Rejects the report and schedules the matter for hearing.
- / / Schedules the matter for additional evidence.
- / X/ Accepts the report, adopts the findings of fact and conclusions of law, and orders the recommended discipline as set forth in the proposed order above.

SO ORDERED.

Vermont Board of Nursing or Director of the Office of Professional Regulation

Signed by:
By: William James Floyd III
3B82E78300124BE...

Date: 8/13/2025, 2025

Vermont Board of Nursing

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

DATE OF ENTRY: 8/13/2025

APPEAL RIGHTS

This is a final administrative determination by the Vermont Board of Nursing or Director of the Office of Professional Regulation. A party aggrieved by a final decision of a board or hearing authority may appeal this decision by filing a written Notice of Appeal with the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State, 89 Main Street, Fl. 3, Montpelier, VT 05620-3402 within 30 days of the entry of this order. If an appeal is filed, the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation shall assign the case to an appellate officer. The review shall be conducted on the basis of the record created before the board. In cases of alleged irregularities in procedure before the board, not shown in the record, proof on that issue may be taken by the appellate officer. 3 V.S.A. §§ 129(d) and 130a.

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

IN RE:)
Eva Harris) **Docket Nos. 2025-84**
License No.: 075.0142460)

MOTION FOR DEFAULT

NOW COMES the State of Vermont, by and through Prosecuting Attorney George L. Hasselback, and pursuant to Rule 3.3 of the Administrative Rules of Practice for the Office of Professional Regulation (“ARPOPR”), hereby moves that the Board of Nursing (the “Board”) find Respondent Ebenezer Anim (“Respondent”) in default for the reasons stated in the following Memorandum of Law.

MEMORANDUM OF LAW

Rule 3.3 of ARPOPR requires a respondent to file an answer to a specification of charges “within 20 days of the date on which the notice of charges was mailed by the Director.” Under the Rules, if a respondent fails to file a timely answer, a default hearing shall be conducted. ARPOPR 3.4. At the default hearing, “the allegations of the charges will be treated as proven and disciplinary action will be taken.” *Id.*

In this matter, Respondent has failed to file a response to the charges and is, therefore, in default. The State filed the Specification of Charges against Respondent on June 18, 2025. Respondent was notified of the charges by letter from the Docket Clerk of the Office of Professional Regulation, sent by both certified and first class mail, on June 19, 2025. *See* ARPOPR 3.2. Respondent’s answer was due on or before July 9, 2025. *See* ARPOPR 3.4. As of this date, Respondent has failed to submit an answer.

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Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional
Regulation 89 Main
Street
3rd Floor
Montpelier,

WHEREFORE, in accordance with ARPOPR 3.3, et seq., the State respectfully requests that the Board schedule a default hearing and find Respondent in default.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 21st day of July 2025.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By: George Hasselback
George L. Hasselback
Prosecuting Attorney
George.hasselback@vermont.gov

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Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional
Regulation 89 Main
Street
3rd Floor
Montpelier,

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

IN RE:)
Eva Harris) **Docket No. 2025-84**
License No. 075.0138943)

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

NOW COMES the State of Vermont and makes the following Charges against the Respondent, Eva Harris:

Board Authority

1. The Vermont State Board of Nursing (the “Board”) has jurisdiction to investigate and adjudicate allegations of unprofessional conduct committed by Licensed Nursing Assistants (“LNA”) 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. Eva Harris (“Respondent”) of Burlington, VT, holds a license to practice as an LNA under license number 075.0138943. This license was originally issued on May 2, 2022, and expires on November 30, 2026.
3. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was employed as an LNA at a rehabilitation center located in St. Johnsbury, VT (“the Facility”).
4. On or about February 20, 2025, Respondent was scheduled to work at the Facility from 3 p.m. until 7 a.m. the following morning (February 21, 2025).
5. Respondent reported for that shift, accepted her nursing assignments for that shift, and began to care for patients.
6. At approximately 7 p.m. on February 20, 2025, Respondent left the Facility without informing anyone that she was leaving or taking any steps to transition care of her patients to another nurse.
7. Respondent did not clock out when she left.
8. Respondent did not return, and to date has not contacted anyone at the Facility to explain her sudden departure.

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

9. Other employees of the Facility were concerned for Respondent's well-being and attempted to contact her to determine where she was and if she was safe.
10. After several attempts by the Charge Nurse on duty to contact Respondent, the Facility's Director of Nursing ("the DON") was informed of what had happened.
11. The DON then attempted to call Respondent's cell phone, but her calls went unanswered.
12. The DON then sent a text message to Respondent's cell phone.
13. The DON received the following text response from Respondent's cell phone:

"Idk who you are but you can go fuck yourself. I am calling state on your ass. All you got there is the buddy system. You go on and report me bitch I will find you and beat your ass. That is not a treat that is a promise you skank as how don't text my fucken phone. I will make sure that state knows so go ahead hot dog do what you feel like you got to do bitch. It's okay for people to sit on their ass and do nothing as long as you suck your ass and other asses I don't suck ass so fucken you fuck that place and I can't wait till that place gets shut down and it will so hey ready to look for a job botch cause it coming FYI I am no scared (emoji) you best be scared because I will find out who you are and I will come after you and I will duck you up so bad that your coffin will be a close one you fuckin gay lesbian dike. Go lick your gf pussy your stupid cunt."
14. Due to the threats contained in this response, the DON contacted Vermont State Police to make a report and immediately changed all the door codes at the Facility.
15. Prior to the receipt of the text response above, there were no reports of any issues between Respondent and any member of the Facility's staff or the Facility's patients.
16. Subsequently, during the internal investigation of the occurrence, the DON discovered that Respondent had shared with other people at the Facility that Respondent was schizophrenic.
17. Subsequently, OPR investigators have attempted to contact Respondent via email and telephone, leaving messages as the telephone calls have gone unanswered.
18. To date, Respondent has not responded in any way to any attempts at communication with OPR investigators.
19. Respondent's current whereabouts, state of mind, and physical state are currently unknown to OPR.
20. On or about June 9, 2025, the Board summarily suspended Respondent's license pending resolution of this matter.

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Office of
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89 Main Street
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05620-3402

Violation One: 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(3) Engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.

21. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 20 above.
22. As an LNA, practicing in the State of Vermont, Respondent is required to refrain from engaging in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public.
23. Paragraphs 2 through 20 demonstrate that Respondent engaged in conduct of a character likely to harm the public in that she abandoned patients that she had accepted and begun to care for without any notice to anyone that Respondent would no longer be caring for them, and Respondent made specific threats of bodily harm to the DON when that person reached out to Respondent to determine where Respondent had gone and if Respondent was safe.
24. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(3).

Violation Two: 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(6) Leaving a nursing assignment without properly advising appropriate personnel.

25. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 20 above.
26. As an LNA, practicing in the State of Vermont, Respondent is required to refrain from leaving a nursing assignment without properly advising appropriate personnel.
27. Paragraphs 2 through 20 demonstrate that Respondent left a nursing assignment without properly advising appropriate personnel when she left the Facility without telling anyone that she was leaving and did not return after having begun her shift, accepted patients, and began caring for them.
28. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(6).

Violation Three: 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(5) Practicing the profession when medically or psychologically unfit to do so.

29. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 20 above.
30. As an LNA, practicing in the State of Vermont, Respondent is required to refrain from practicing the profession of nursing when medically or psychologically unfit to do so.

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Office of
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05620-3402

31. Paragraphs 2 through 20 demonstrate that Respondent practiced the profession of nursing when medically or psychologically unfit to do so when she left her nursing shift without informing anyone that she was leaving or when she would return, never returned to her shift, never explained to the Facility where she had gone or why she had abandoned her patients, sent an expletive-laden text message that contained multiple threats of physical violence to the DON who was attempting to determine whether or not Respondent was safe, and never made any contact with the multiple individuals who were attempting to contact her to determine why she abandoned her patients, where she had gone, and, ultimately, if she were safe.
32. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. § 1582(a)(3).

Relief Requested

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

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont this 18th day of June, 2025.

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By: George Hasselback
George Lloyd Hasselback
Prosecuting Attorney
(802)828-0350
george.hasselback@vermont.gov

STATE OF VERMONT



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