

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

IN RE:

LAURIE ANN COLEMAN

License No. 026.0021582

)
)
)

Docket No. 2008-397

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

STIPULATION

NOW COME the State of Vermont, by and through State Prosecuting Attorney Betsy Ann Wrask, and the Respondent, Laurie Ann Coleman, RN, who 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. § 1582; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

Statement of Facts

2. Laurie Ann Coleman (the "Respondent") of Rutland, Vermont is licensed by the State of Vermont as a Registered Nurse under license number 026.0021582. This license was originally issued on or about June 21, 1994 and is currently set to expire on or about March 31, 2011.
3. At all times relevant, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse at Eden Park (the "Facility"), located in Rutland, Vermont.
4. On or about September 26, 2008 in a Division of Licensing & Protection Event Reporting Form, Facility Administrator R.S. reported that on or about September 25, 2008, it was noted that Resident I.C.'s "PEG" tube dressing had not been changed as ordered, and that when the old dressing was removed, it was found to be dated September 16, 2008. However, Respondent had signed in the treatment record that she had changed this dressing on or about September 19, 2008 and September 23, 2008. R.S. stated that because treatments were signed off in the record as being completed, but were not, Respondent was terminated from the Facility for falsifying medical records. R.S. advised that there was no harm noted to I.C.

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
9 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT
05609-1107

5. A review of I.C.'s treatment record indicates the PEG dressing was to be changed twice a week, and that Respondent signed off on changing this dressing on or about September 19, 2008 and September 23, 2008.
6. On or about June 30, 2009 in an interview with State Investigator Karl Packer, Respondent admitted that she documented in the treatment record that she had changed I.C.'s PEG dressing on two occasions, when in reality she had not. Respondent stated that on those two occasions, she had signed off on the treatment record that she had changed the dressing, then went to I.C.'s room and found that I.C. was not there, but that she forgot to go back later to I.C.'s room to change the dressing.
7. Therefore, Respondent admitted that she pre-documented, in that she documented performing a treatment before a treatment was performed.
8. A review of Respondent's personnel file reveals in part the following:
 - a. On or about April 16, 2008, Respondent received a verbal warning for failure to follow policies regarding follow-up assessments, and following up with aides.
 - b. On or about May 1, 2008, Respondent received a Notice of Deficiency for infractions on or about April 29, 2008 and May 1, 2008 regarding having a negative attitude.
 - c. On or about August 26, 2008, Respondent received a Notice of Deficiency for failure to document the state of skin tears on a patient, who was at risk for a skin breakdown. The Deficiency stated, "One questions if the bandage [over skin tears] was even changed as no date/signature found." Moreover, it was noted that three washbasins were located in the room, with one that came from the hospital containing three (3) medications in it; and that the hospital linens were left under the patient, leaving creases in the resident's skin. "This also makes one ask if proper turning and repositioning was carried out and to what degree was a skin check performed," the Deficiency stated. It was also noted that no pillows were placed so that the patient's heels were off the bed, nor was a request made for foam boots.

Charges

9. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because the Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of:
 - a. 3 V.S.A. § 129a(b)(1) and (2) (Failure to practice competently by reason of any cause on a single occasion or on multiple occasions may constitute unprofessional conduct, whether actual injury to a client, patient, or customer has occurred. Failure to practice competently includes: (1) performance of unsafe or

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
9 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT
05609-1107

unacceptable patient or client care; or (2) failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice); and

- b. 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).

Understandings

10. 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.
11. 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.
12. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
13. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signs this Stipulation and Consent Order.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. Respondent agrees that the Order set forth below may be entered by the Board.

ORDER

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

- A. The Board of Nursing hereby **REPRIMANDS** Respondent's license to practice registered nursing.
- B. 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).
- C. 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.

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
9 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT
05609-1107

AGREED TO:

Dated:

^{2.21.10}
2/11/10

STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

By:

Betsy Ann Wrask
State Prosecuting Attorney

LAURIE ANN COLEMAN
RESPONDENT

Dated:

2/11/10

By:

Laurie Ann Coleman
Laurie Ann Coleman

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Dated:

3-15-10

Date of Entry:

nu.coleman.stip

3/17/10

VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Ellen Loff
Chairperson

STATE OF VERMONT



Prosecuting Attorney
Office of
Professional Regulation
9 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT
05609-1107