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DEFAULT ORDER

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Conclusions of Law

The Respondent has received adequate notice of the charges against her as indicated by the Board's file and the State's presentation. Because the Respondent has failed to answer the charges against her, the State's factual allegations are treated as if proved. Accordingly, the Board finds, in the default hearing held pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §809(d), that the Respondent has engaged in the unprofessional conduct alleged in the State's specification of charges.

Order

In accordance with the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the license of the Respondent is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED, effective as of the date of the hearing.

Appeal Rights

This is a final administrative determination by the Vermont State Board of Nursing. You may appeal by sending a notice of appeal in writing to the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation within 30 days of the date of entry of this order. If you wish to request a stay of the Board's decision, please refer to the attached stay instructions.

By:

Susan Farrell
Susan Farrell
Chair

Date:

Dec. 19, 2002

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

DATE OF ENTRY: 12/20/02

In re: Laura E. Crewson, LPN
Lic. No. 25-06692

1. The Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to investigate complaints of unprofessional conduct and approve consent orders pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §129, and 26 V.S.A. §§1574, 1582.

1. Respondent, Laura E. Crewson, worked as a per diem staff nurse at Grace Cottage Hospital in the Stratton House section.

4. On or about, December 6, 2001 Respondent was working the 3 to 11 p.m. shift at Grace Cottage Hospital in the Stratton House section.

5. Records indicate that Respondent had no patients in need of narcotic drugs during this period yet was seen in the drug room at the narcotic cabinet with a key in her hand by another staff nurse. Respondent remarked that "I think I better go check that order again" when it became apparent she had been seen.

6. The others working that shift had all been working for Grace Cottage Hospital for some time and Respondent had just return from a hiatus of approximately a month.

7. At the 3:00 p.m. check of narcotics/drugs all were accounted for. When the new count was made at 11:00 p.m. it was discovered that a sealed box of morphine had been opened and several containers of morphine had been

disturbed. There was no documentation providing a reason this box or its contents to have been opened and disturbed. A subsequent laboratory check of these drugs revealed that the concentrations of the drug morphine in these containers had been changed and reduced. This means that the containers had some contents removed and they were then refilled with a foreign substance adulterating the contents.

8. Respondent has told a fellow employee that she lives with a man who does cocaine and an enormous amount of narcotics.

9. The conduct described above (diverting drugs and adulterating drugs) is unprofessional conduct under 26 V.S.A. §1582(3)(is unable to practice nursing by reason of any cause) and (7)(engages in conduct likely to defraud or harm the public, and 3 V.S.A. §129a.

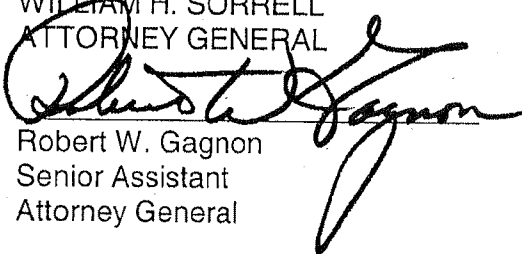
WHEREFORE, the nursing license of Laura E. Crewson should be revoked, suspended, reprimanded, conditioned or otherwise disciplined.

STATE OF VERMONT

WILLIAM H. SORRELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dated: 9-10-02

by:


Robert W. Gagnon
Senior Assistant
Attorney General

Office of the
ATTORNEY
GENERAL
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT
05609

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NOW COME the State of Vermont, through its Attorney General

The Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to investigate and adjudicate complaints of unprofessional conduct committed by nurses pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §129 and 26 V.S.A. §§1574, 1582.

The Board of Nursing is authorized by 3 V.S.A. §814 to summarily suspend the license of a licensee when it finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

Respondent Laura E. Crewson, of Newson, N. H. is a licensed practical nurse holding license number 25-06692 issued by the State of Vermont.

Respondent does not admit that she diverted Morphine from the Grace Cottage Hospital of Townshend, Vermont for her personal use but does acknowledge that if a hearing were held sufficient evidence to support such a finding by the Board would be warranted.

Respondent waives the necessity for the findings preceding an emergency order issued by the Board, pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §814(c).

6. Respondent waives her right under 3 V.S.A. §814(c) to have formal charges of unprofessional conduct promptly filed with the Board and waives her right to the prompt determination of those charges.
7. Respondent agrees that the Board may enter an Order summarily suspending her nursing license.
8. Respondent understands that the summary suspension shall remain in effect until such time as the matter is finally concluded by further order of the Board after formal charges are filed.
9. Respondent understands that the Board must review and accept the terms of this agreement. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire agreement shall be null and void.
10. Respondent understands that this agreement, if accepted by the Board, is a public document that may be reported to other licensing authorities as provided in 3 V.S.A. §129(a)(7)
11. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
12. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signs this agreement.
13. Respondent voluntarily enters this agreement after the opportunity to consult with legal counsel and is not being coerced by anyone into signing it.

14. 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:

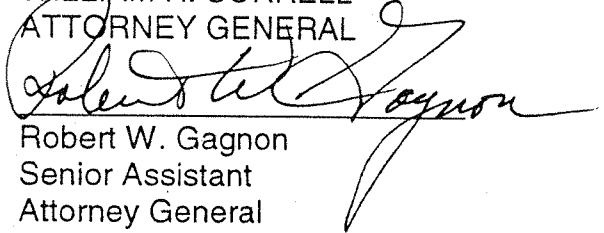
- A. The Board **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the license of Laura E. Crewson pending further order of the Board.

STATE OF VERMONT

WILLIAM H. SORRELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

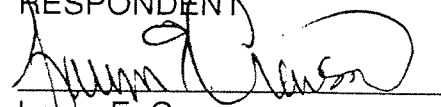
Dated: 3-8-02

By:


Robert W. Gagnon
Senior Assistant
Attorney General

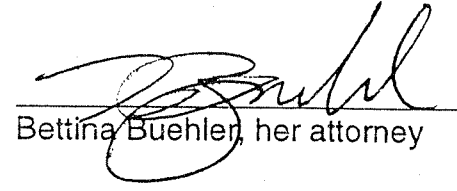
LAURA E. CREWSON
RESPONDENT

By:


Laura E. Crewson

APPROVED AS TO FORM

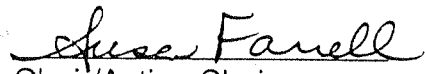
By:


Bettina Buehler, her attorney

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

Dated 3/11/02

By:


Chair/Acting Chair
Vermont Board of Nursing

Date of Entry: 3/12/02

In re:)
 Laura E. Crewson, LPN) Docket No. NU29-1001
 Lic. No. 25-06692)

NOW COMES the State of Vermont and requests the summary suspension
of the nursing license of Laura E. Crewson on the following grounds:

- Office of the
ATTORNEY
GENERAL
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT
05609

7. At the 3:00 p.m. check of narcotics/drugs all were accounted for. When the new count was made at 11:00 p.m. it was discovered that a sealed box of morphine had been opened and several containers of morphine had been disturbed. There was no documentation providing a reason this box or its contents to have been opened and disturbed. A subsequent laboratory check of these drugs revealed that the concentrations of the drug morphine in these containers had been changed and reduced. This means that the containers had some contents removed and they were then refilled with a foreign substance adulterating the contents.
8. Respondent has told a fellow employee that she lives with a man who does cocaine and an enormous amount of narcotics.
9. The conduct described above (diverting drugs and adulterating drugs) is unprofessional conduct under 26 V.S.A. §1582(3)(is unable to practice nursing by reason of any cause) and (7)(engages in conduct likely to defraud or harm the public, and 3 V.S.A. §129a.
10. The health, safety, and welfare of the public imperatively require emergency action against the license of respondent.

WHEREFORE, the nursing license of Laura E. Crewson should be summarily suspended.

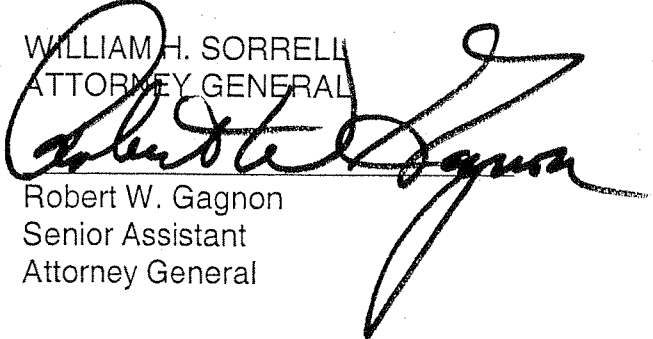
Office of the
ATTORNEY
GENERAL
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT
05609

Dated: 2-25-02

STATE OF VERMONT

WILLIAM H. SORRELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

by:


Robert W. Gagnon
Senior Assistant
Attorney General