

State of Vermont
Vermont Board of Nursing

In re: Hannah E.B. Holt
License Number: 026.0113001
Docket Number: 2020-100

Order to Remove Conditions

On June 14, 2021, the Vermont Board of Nursing considered Hannah E.B. Holt's request for Removal of Conditions imposed pursuant to a Stipulation & Consent Order effective April 14, 2021 under Docket Number 2020-100. Hannah E.B. Holt has met the conditions, including successful completion of the course Righting a Wrong: Ethics & Professionalism in Nursing. After review of the follow-up file, the State does not object to removal of all conditions.

Order:

The Board hereby removes all conditions from Hannah E.B. Holt's RN license.

Vermont Board of Nursing

E-SIGNED by Ellen Watson
on 2021-06-15 12:28:30 EDT

Ellen Watson, APRN, Chair

Date: June 14, 2021

Date of Entry:

6 / 18 / 21

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

IN RE:	)	
HANNAH E. B. HOLT	)	Docket No. 2020-100
License No. 026.0113001	)	

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

STIPULATION

NOW COMES the State of Vermont, by and through State Prosecuting Attorney Traci Leibowitz, and the respondent in this matter, Hannah E. B. Holt, 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. Chapter 28; the Administrative Rules of the Board of Nursing (the "ARBN"); and the Rules of the Office of Professional Regulation.

Stipulated Facts

2. Hannah E. B. Holt ("Respondent") of Old Bennington, Vermont is licensed by the State of Vermont as a Registered Nurse ("RN") under license number 026.0113001. This license was originally issued June 25, 2015, and expires on March 31, 2021. Previously, Respondent was licensed in the State of Vermont as a Licensed Practical Nurse (License No. 025.0105266) and prior to that as a Licensed Nursing Assistant (License No. 075.0018203).
3. At all relevant times, Respondent was employed as an RN in the Emergency Department at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center located in Bennington, Vermont.
4. On February 14, 2020, Respondent was assigned to care for a patient ("Patient").
5. Patient was agitated, crying out, and complaining of pain. Patient was exhibiting disruptive behavior and appeared to be in crisis.
6. Respondent attempted to provide emotional support to Patient.

7. Respondent consulted with Patient's attending physician. To address the situation, the attending physician prescribed anti-anxiety medication to Patient.
8. Patient refused the anti-anxiety medication.
9. Patient was asking for Dilaudid, an opioid narcotic pain medication, and continued to become more agitated.
10. In an attempt to calm Patient down, Respondent administered an intramuscular injection of saline to Patient.
11. Patient asked repeatedly if the injected medication was Dilaudid. Respondent eventually responded by falsely stating that the intramuscular injection was Dilaudid.
12. Respondent did not consult with the attending physician or the charge nurse prior to administering the saline injection. There was no medication order for saline.
13. Respondent failed to document that she gave the injection of saline.
14. Later that same shift, Respondent informed the charge nurse that she had administered an intramuscular injection of saline to Patient.
15. Southwestern Vermont Medical Center terminated Respondent's employment on February 20, 2020 as a result of the events described above.

Violation One: 26 V.S.A §1582(a)(4) Willfully failing to file or record, or willfully impeding or obstructing filing or recording, or inducing another person to omit to file or record medical reports.

16. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 15 above.
17. As an RN, Respondent is prohibited from willfully failing to file or record, or willfully impeding or obstructing filing or recording, or inducing another person to omit to file or record medical reports.
18. Respondent's conduct in Paragraphs 2 through 15 above demonstrate that she willfully failed to properly record a medical record.
19. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 26 V.S.A. §1582(a)(4).

Violation Two: 3 V.S.A §129a(a)(13) Performing treatments or providing services that the licensee is not qualified to perform or that are beyond the scope of the licensee's education, training, capabilities, experience, or scope of practice.

20. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 15 above.
21. As an RN, Respondent is prohibited from providing treatments or services that she is not qualified to perform or that are beyond the scope of her education, training, capabilities, experience, or scope of practice.
22. Respondent's conduct in Paragraphs 2 through 15 above demonstrate that she provided treatments or services that she was not qualified to perform and that were beyond the scope of her education, training, capabilities, experience, or scope of practice.
23. The act(s), omission(s), and/or circumstance(s) described above constitute grounds for discipline because Respondent has committed unprofessional conduct in violation of 3 V.S.A. §129a(a)(13).

Violation Three: 3 V.S.A §129a(b)(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: (2) failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice.

24. The State re-alleges and incorporates Paragraphs 2 through 15 above.
25. According to the American Nurses Association, "Patients have the moral and legal right to determine what will be done with and to their own person; to be given accurate, complete, and understandable information in a manner that facilitates an informed decision; and to be assisted with weighing the benefits, burdens, and available options in their treatment, including the choice of no treatment." *Code of Ethics for Nurses, Provision 1.4: The Right to Self-Determination.*
26. Respondent's conduct in Paragraphs 2 through 15 above demonstrate that Respondent failed to conform with this essential standard of acceptable and prevailing practice.
27. 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 3 V.S.A. §129a(b)(2).

Understandings

28. Respondent admits that the facts above are true and that the conditions below are necessary to protect the public.
29. Respondent understands that the Nursing Board must review and accept the terms of the Stipulation and Consent Order. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Stipulation and Consent Order shall be null and void.

30. 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.
31. Respondent has read and reviewed this entire document and agrees that it contains the entire agreement between the parties.
32. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time she signs this Stipulation and Consent Order.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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 places a **WARNING** on Respondent's license.
- B. Respondent's license is hereby **CONDITIONED** as follows:
 - a. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days of this Order, at her own expense, successfully complete the following pre-approved course:
 - i. Righting a Wrong: Ethics & Professionalism in Nursing, and any accompanying workbook, through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Learning Extension; and
 - b. Respondent must submit the completed workbook and written documentation of completion (certificate of completion, etc.) to the Enforcement Case Manager.
 - c. Failure to complete such courses and coursework within the prescribed timeframe shall constitute a violation of this Order.
 - d. Upon completion of the courses and accompanying coursework, Respondent shall submit a petition to the Docket Clerk to remove any and all conditions from Respondent's license and to return the license to unencumbered status. The petition shall include evidence of compliance. The State will agree to, or oppose, Respondent's petition. The Board will conduct a hearing if necessary. Respondent

bears the burden of proof to demonstrate that Respondent has fully complied with the terms of this Order

- C. Notwithstanding any provision above, the Respondent must continue to meet all requirements for maintaining a license, license renewal, and license reinstatement.
- D. 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).
- E. 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:

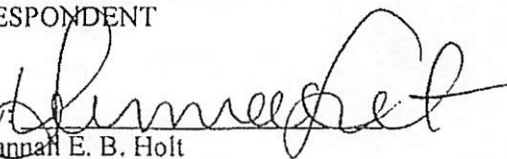
STATE OF VERMONT
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dated: March 17, 2021

By: 
Traci Leibowitz
State Prosecuting Attorney
89 Main St., 3rd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-3402
(802) 828-0041
traci.leibowitz@vermont.gov

HANNAH E. B. HOLT
RESPONDENT

Dated: 3/12/2021

By: 
Hannah E. B. Holt

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED:

VERMONT BOARD OF NURSING

Dated: April 13, 2021

By: 
E-SIGNED by Ellen Watson
on 2021-04-13 20:17:32 EDT
Chairperson

Date of Entry: 4.14.21