



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STATE BOARD OF NURSING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS September 2007

Secretary of the Commonwealth Pedro A. Cortés and Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner of the Department's Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, announced 40 disciplinary actions taken by the State Board of Nursing.

Actions were taken against individuals or firms in the following counties: Allegheny County (2 actions); Armstrong County (2 actions); Berks County (2 actions); Bucks County (4 actions); Cambria County (2 actions); Chester (2 actions); Clinton (1 action); Crawford (1 action); Cumberland (1 action); Dauphin (2 actions); Delaware (1 action); Huntingdon (1 action); Lancaster (1 action); Lehigh (1 action); Luzerne (1 action); Lycoming (1 action); Northumberland (2 actions); Philadelphia (3 actions); Schuylkill (2 actions); Washington (1 action); and Westmoreland (3 actions). Four actions involved Pennsylvania licenses with out-of-state addresses.

Allegheny County

Patricia E. Saunders, a/k/a Patricia E. Bainbridge, license no. PN101031L, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was suspended for at least five years, retroactive to Jan. 5, 2007, because she violated a board order by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a board-approved treatment program. After six months of active suspension, the balance of suspension was stayed in favor of probation. (07-25-07)

Susan P. Gonzalez, license no. RN519525L of Brackenridge, Allegheny County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than 3 years, with such suspension stayed in favor of no less than 3 years of probation because Gonzalez failed to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition or physiological or psychological dependence upon alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. (09-10-07)

Armstrong County

Nina M. Recupero, license no. PN091986L of Kittanning, Armstrong County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor

of no less than three years of probation. Recupero pled guilty to a misdemeanor under the Drug Act, and is addicted to alcohol or is addicted to hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination or has become mentally incompetent. (09-10-07)

Kim M. Watson, license no. RN276878L of Wexford, Allegheny County, had her license suspended for five years, stayed in favor of five years probation subject to terms and conditions. Watson is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition or physiological dependence upon alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. Watson last practiced in Wexford, Allegheny County. (09-10-07)

Berks County

Gina A. Hammer, license no. PN083475L, had her license revoked because she pleaded guilty to a crime of moral turpitude in the courts of this commonwealth. Hammer last practiced in Berks County. (9-10-07)

Scott A. Dudley, license no. PN-254243-L, of Reading, Berks County, had the one-year suspension of his license immediately stayed upon the condition of his participation in the Disciplinary Monitoring Unit of the Professional Health Monitoring Program for a minimum of three years based on findings that Dudley plead guilty to a misdemeanor under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (08-09-07)

Bucks County

Francine Wilson, license no. PN089164L, of Levittown, Bucks County, was indefinitely suspended based upon her criminal conviction. After serving six months of active suspension, the balance of the period of suspension may be stayed in favor of probation. (07-25-07)

Richard A. Wimmer, license no. RN328587L, of Doylestown, Bucks County, was suspended for at least one year because he undertook a specific practice without the necessary knowledge, preparation, experience or competency to properly execute the practice; committed unprofessional conduct by failing to administer medication in the dosage and manner prescribed; and failed to document and maintain accurate patient records. After three months of active suspension, the remaining period of suspension was stayed in favor of probation. (07-25-07)

Eric B. Bown, license no. RN506668L of Levittown, agreed to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty and a public reprimand was placed on his board record because he practiced nursing on an expired license. (09-10-07)

Amy L. Horwath, license no. RN282459L of Doylestown, Bucks County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and had a public reprimand placed on her permanent board record. Horwath practiced professional nursing without a valid current license. (09-10-07)

Cambria County

Barbara Kimmel Mikesic, license no. PN075078L, of Johnstown, Cambria County, had her license suspended retroactive to May 29, 2007, based upon her felony conviction under the Drug Act. (07-26-07)

Debra Knotts Kelley, license no. PN089929L, had her license revoked because Kelley misappropriated equipment, materials, property, drugs, or money from an employer or patient. Kelley last practiced in Cresson, Cambria County. (9-10-07)

Chester County

Roberta Zatsick, license no. PN063438L, of West Chester, Chester County, was indefinitely suspended based upon her failure to submit to a mental and physical examination. (07-25-07)

Brenda Severson DiNicola, license no. PN151251L, of Spring City, Chester County, had her license placed on probation for three years based on findings that she pled guilty to a crime of moral turpitude relating to the profession. (08-09-07)

Clinton County

Bethy Rocco St. John, license no. RN310920L, of Lock Haven, Clinton County, was suspended retroactive to Aug. 2, 2007, based upon her felony conviction under the Drug Act. (8-27-07)

Crawford County

Amanda J. Gadsby, license no. PN263368, of Meadville, Crawford County, had her license indefinitely suspended for at least six months based on findings that she has engaged in unprofessional conduct or such conduct as to require a suspension or revocation of her license in the public interest, administered immunizing agents without a written order from a licensed physician pertaining to the individuals and misappropriated equipment, materials, property and drugs from her employer. (08-09-07)

Cumberland County

Linda Lund, license no. PN083207L, of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, was indefinitely suspended due to her dependence on alcohol or hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment and coordination. (08-30-07)

Dauphin County

Douglas Entenman, license no. RN327792L, of Hummelstown, Dauphin County, had his license suspended based upon his felony and misdemeanor convictions under the Drug Act. (04-20-07)

Jill L. Davies, license no. RN255578L of Harrisburg, Dauphin County, had her license indefinitely suspended. Davies was unable to practice professional nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of physiological or psychological dependence upon alcohol or drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. (09-10-07)

Delaware County

Kelley Straub, license no. RN280504L of Havertown, Delaware County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation. Straub was unable to practice professional nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition. (09-10-07)

Huntingdon County

Kathy Grove Gill, license no. PN260427L, of Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, had her license reprimanded based on findings that she pled guilty to a crime involving moral turpitude in the courts of this commonwealth. (08-09-07)

Lancaster County

Lori Stoner, license no. PN080070L, of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to June 21, 2007, because she violated an agreement by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a board-approved treatment program. (8-22-07)

Lehigh County

Mary A. Larney, license no. RN534590 of Allentown, Lehigh County, was suspended for no less than five years, stayed in favor or no less than five years probation. Larney was deemed unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition or physiological or psychological dependence upon alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. (09-10-07)

Luzerne County

Rose A. Stuffick, license no. PN074815L, of Luzerne, Luzerne County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to June 21, 2007, because she violated an agreement by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a board-approved treatment program. (8-28-07)

Lycoming County

Kathleen M. Yoxheimer, license no. RN514742L, of Williamsport, Lycoming County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to Feb. 16, 2007, because she violated an agreement by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a board-approved treatment program. After six months of active suspension, the balance of suspension was stayed in favor of probation. (08-01-07)

Northumberland County

Barbara A. Cook, license no. PN102595L, of Sunbury, Northumberland County, was suspended based upon her *nolo contendere* plea to a misdemeanor under the Drug Act. (08-10-07)

Karen Shulski, license no. RN201314L of Mt. Carmel, Northumberland County, has voluntarily and permanently surrendered her license. Shulski is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental illness. (09-10-07)

Philadelphia County

Howard Michael Pinsky, license no. RN560547, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, had his license suspended indefinitely, stayed in favor of probation to run concurrent with Pinsky's criminal probation in Florida. Pinsky was convicted of a felony in the courts of Florida. (08-16-07)

John Landy, license no. RN515656L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was granted reinstatement to practice nursing subject to a three-year period of probation and monitoring by the Professional Health Monitoring Program, Disciplinary Monitoring Unit. (08-31-07)

Lynn F. McNamara, license no. RN271368L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation. McNamara is unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol, or mental impairment. (09-10-07)

Schuylkill County

Jennifer Rebecca Fishburn, license no. PN272955, of Ashland, Schuylkill County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation. Fishburn is unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol, or mental impairment. (09-10-07)

Jo Anne Hill, license no. RN218666L, of New Ringgold, Schuylkill County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years because she is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol, or mental impairment. (09-10-07)

Washington County

Sarah A. Cunningham, license no. RN295562L of Eighty Four, Washington County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, with credit given from Oct. 1, 2006, through July 31, 2007. Cunningham is unable to practice professional nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition or physiological or psychological dependence upon alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination, and Cunningham's license is subject to automatic suspension based upon her entrance of a plea of *nolo contendere* to felony charges under The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (09-10-07)

Westmoreland County

Eileen Howell Hayne, license no. RN242630L, of Irwin, Westmoreland County, had her license suspended indefinitely, for no less than three years, based on findings that Hayne violated the terms and conditions of a previous board order. (08-16-07)

Roberta Gagner, license no. PN262707, of Jeannette, Westmoreland County, had her license suspended for at least one year, stayed in favor of at least one year probation subject to terms and conditions. Gagner was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and must take eight contact hours of continuing education in scope of practice of LPN and documentation. Gagner administered IV push Lasix to a patient and inaccurately documented that another nurse administered the IV push Lasix. (09-10-07)

Kenneth R. Hunter, license no. PN250782L of Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty; was ordered to complete eight contact hours of continuing professional education credits; and was suspended for at least one year, stayed in favor of at least one year of probation. Hunter administered medication other than heparin flush by intravenous push and he failed to document and maintain accurate records. (09-10-07)

Out of State

Deborah Cowfer, license no. RN178282L, of Birmingham, Ala., had charges against her license dismissed based on the board having declined to impose a sanction for disciplinary action taken against her license to practice nursing by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-09-07)

Shannon Blackburn Jewell, license no. RN534225, of Weirton, W. Va., had her license suspended, stayed in favor of five years of probation. Based on findings that Jewell is unable to practice professional nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of dependence upon narcotic drugs, Jewell received probation without verdict in the disposition of felony charges and that Jewell possessed, used, acquired or distributed a controlled substance for other than an acceptable medical purpose. (08-16-07)

Tammy L. Morris, license no. PN266590, of Wilmington, Del., had her license revoked based on findings that she is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence, habits, or other causes; she is guilty of unprofessional conduct or such conduct as to require a suspension or revocation in the public interest; and she failed to respect and consider an individual's right to freedom from psychological and physical abuse. (08-23-07)

Barbara A. Redmon, license no. RN550496 of Westville, Fla., had a public reprimand placed on her permanent board record. Redmon's registered nursing licenses in Nevada and Texas were disciplined by the proper licensing authority of Nevada and Texas. (09-10-07)

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***A complete list of sanctions is available online at
www.state.pa.us
Keyword: licensing disciplinary actions.***

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