



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STATE BOARD OF NURSING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS March 2008

Secretary of the Commonwealth Pedro A. Cortés and Basil L. Merenda, Commissioner of the Department's Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, announced 21 disciplinary actions taken by the State Board of Nursing.

Actions were taken against individuals or firms in the following counties: Armstrong (1 action); Beaver (1 action); Bucks (1 action); Chester (1 action); Cumberland (1 action); Crawford (1 action); Delaware (1 action); Erie (1 action); Fayette (1 action); Lancaster (2 actions); Mifflin (1 action); Montgomery (1 action); Philadelphia (3 actions); and Westmoreland (1 action). Two actions involved Pennsylvania licenses with out-of-state addresses.

Allegheny County

Linda Smarsh, license no. RN291287L, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was indefinitely suspended, because she misappropriated drugs from her employer or patients, committed fraud or deceit in the practice of nursing, acquired controlled substances for other than acceptable medical purposes, was guilty of unprofessional conduct, and is unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to drug use. (03-04-08)

Armstrong County

Robin Lynne Skrabut, of Ford City, Armstrong County, was permitted to sit for the professional nursing licensure examination, subject to placing her license of probation for five years, based upon a finding that she is of good moral character, despite her criminal conviction. (03-05-08)

Beaver County

Susan D. Floriani, license no. RN227344L, of Freedom, Beaver County, had her nursing license suspended for at least three years, retroactive to November 30, 2007, based on findings that she is unable to practice 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. (03-25-08)

Bucks County

Edward C. Downey, license no. PN261489L of Morrisville, Bucks County, was ordered to complete at least six hours of CPE in nursing law and ethics within six

months of the effective date of his order and a public reprimand was placed on his permanent Board record because he failed to perform wound care and respiratory treatments for approximately six patients in his care but documented in their charts that he did perform the treatments. (02-29-08)

Chester County

Rosalinda Grasso Solomon, license no. RN256705L, of Paoli, Chester County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to February 12, 2007, based upon her violations of an agreement by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a treatment and monitoring program approved by the State Board of Nursing. After two years active suspension, the remainder of the suspension was stayed in favor of probation for at least three additional years. (03-04-08)

Cumberland County

Jennifer L. Yohe, license no. RN506418L, of Carlisle, Cumberland County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to May 6, 2007, because she violated an agreement by which disciplinary action was deferred while she participated in a treatment and monitoring program approved by the State Board of Nursing. After one year of active suspension, the balance of the period of suspension was stayed in favor of probation. (03-20-08)

Crawford County

Richard P. DeMaison, license no. PN101243L, of Meadville, Crawford County, had his nursing license indefinitely suspended, based on findings that he is addicted to alcohol, and such dependence continues. (03-25-08)

Delaware County

De'Mond L. VanBuren, license no. PN262810, of Upper Darby, Delaware County, was suspended pursuant to the Order of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County dated March 26, 2008, which the court issued under section 4355 of the Domestic Relations Code. The suspension is effective immediately. (03-26-08)

Erie County

Kimberly Denise Middleton, license no. RN549253, of Corry, Erie County, had her nursing license suspended for at least three years, retroactive to January 14, 2008, based on findings that she is unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of addiction to alcohol or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. (03-25-08)

Fayette County

Laurie Valdiserri, license number PN105971L, of Belle Vernon, Fayette County, was suspended for at least three years, retroactive to September 10, 2007, because she violated an order granting reinstatement of her license on probation while she participated in a treatment and monitoring program approved by the Board. (03-11-08)

Lancaster County

Michelle Lynn Wright, RN, license number RN532566, of Denver, Lancaster County, was reinstated, subject to probation for 3 years while she participates in a treatment program approved by the State Board of Nursing, based upon a finding that she is able to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients. (3-05-08)

Shawn R. Arnold, license no. RN542703, of Lancaster, Lancaster County, had his nursing license suspended for at least three years, retroactive to March 29, 2007, based on findings that he violated the terms of his DMU Agreement and the granting of the instant Petition for Appropriate Relief. (03-18-08)

Lebanon County

Paulette Mintzer, license no. RN203799L, of Palmyra, Lebanon County, had her nursing license reinstated to probationary status based on Ms. Mintzer having presented substantial credible evidence that she is rehabilitated and is able to resume the practice of professional nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients subject to probationary conditions and monitoring. (03-31-08)

Mifflin County

Brandon R. Holbrook, license no. PN268065, of Reedsville, Mifflin County, had his practical nursing license revoked based on findings that he was convicted of a crime of moral turpitude in the courts of this Commonwealth, he is guilty of gross immorality, he is guilty of unprofessional conduct and such conduct as to require a suspension or revocation in the public interest, he engaged in conduct defined as a sexual violation or sexual impropriety in the course of a professional relationship, he failed to respect and consider, while providing nursing care, an individual's right to freedom from psychological and physical abuse and he failed to act to safeguard a patient from the incompetent, abusive, or illegal practice of any individual. (03-25-08)

Montgomery County

Donna Russell Blakeslee, license no. RN343714L, of Limerick, Montgomery County, had her nursing license suspended, for at least three years, retroactive to May 22, 2006, based on findings that she violated the terms and conditions of a previous Board order by failing to submit to ROBS. (03-21-08)

Philadelphia County

Paula Marie Stewart, license no. PN268283, of Philadelphia County, was suspended for up to one year retroactive to February 8, 2008, based upon her misdemeanor convictions under the Drug Act. (3-14-08)

Jacqueline M. Johnson, license no. RN515454L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, had her professional nursing license indefinitely suspended for at least three years, retroactive to November 14, 2006, based on findings that she violated the terms of her agreement and the granting of the instant Petition for Appropriate Relief. (03-18-08)

Robert A. Frink, Jr., license no. PN082431L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, had his nursing license suspended for at least three years, retroactive to July 13, 2006, said suspension immediately stayed in favor of probation, based on findings that he violated the terms of his DMU Agreement. (03-25-08)

Westmoreland County

Lisa Jean Cooper, license no. RN562222, of Greensburg, Westmoreland County, had her nursing license indefinitely suspended, based on findings that she is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to dependence on narcotic drugs, she possessed, used, acquired or distributed a controlled substance or caution legend drug for other than an acceptable medical purpose, she committed fraud or deceit in the practice of nursing, and she misappropriated equipment, materials, property, drugs or money from an employer or patient. (03-19-08)

Out of State

Loretta A. Zazo, RN, license number RN323462L, of Charlestown, MD, was indefinitely suspended, based upon her failure to submit to a mental and physical examination. (03-04-08)

Elizabeth M. McCue Beal, license no. PN262943, of Yorkville, Ohio, had her Pennsylvania nursing license indefinitely suspended, retroactive to June 20, 2007, based on findings that she is unable to practice 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. (03-19-08)

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A complete list of sanctions is available online at

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Keyword: licensing disciplinary actions.

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