

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION

vs.

FRANCES M. GOULET, ASSISTED LIVING  
RESIDENCE ADMINISTRATOR

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: A.H. FILE NO. (HSR) 2006-9  
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**ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION**

The matter came on for hearing before a designated Adjudication Officer within the Department of Health upon a complaint made by the Assisted Living Residence Administrator Board against the Respondent, Francis M. Goulet. The Board alleged that the Respondent had documented giving a resident a controlled substance, when she, in fact, had not done so. Further, the Board alleges that the Respondent failed to properly document PRN medications for other patients. The Board is seeking a suspension of the Respondent's license for one (1) year.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

In May, 2005, the Office of Facilities Regulation conducted a survey of the Manchester Manor Assisted Living Residence, which has been owned and operated by the Respondent since 1981. The Office of Facilities Regulation issued a Statement of Deficiencies for the facility for which the Respondent provided an acceptable and timely Plan of Correction.

With respect to the specific allegations against the Respondent as set forth above, the Respondent admitted to non-compliance with the procedures identified by Facilities

Regulation. The Respondent testified that she has little experience with patients who have prescriptions for controlled substances. She does not accept them into her facility. However, she does retain them as patients if they subsequently are prescribed controlled substances, as was the case with this patient. The patient was to take a schedule II drug each evening. The Respondent kept the drugs in a locked cabinet with other patient medications. However, if the patient failed to return home to the facility prior to the Respondent's evening departure, it was the Respondent's procedure to place the pill in a sealed envelope with the patient's name on it and to lock it in the cabinet for which the med tech on the evening shift had the key. Based upon the survey, the Respondent was informed that the procedure was not in compliance with state regulation. She was directed to obtain a locked box into which all of the patient's medication was to be kept and give the patient the key. The locked box is then kept in the locked medicine cabinet. The Respondent undertook to comply with the survey that same day. Additionally, the facility was cited for inadequate record keeping with respect to PRN medications. The Respondent undertook a staff training program in order to bring the facility into compliance with that issue. As a result of the Facilities Regulation survey, the above-referenced matters were referred to this Board and the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education. In December, 2005, the Respondent entered into a Consent Order with the nursing board wherein she accepted the sanction of a reprimand.

There was evidence on the record that the Respondent has been an Assisted Living Residence Administrator since 1981 and a nurse since 1955. She has never been previously or since sanctioned for any reason.

**CONCLUSION**

Based upon the foregoing and the testimony and evidence introduced at hearing, the Respondent is hereby issued a **Reprimand** against her license as an Assisted Living Residence Administrator.

Entered this 31<sup>ST</sup> day of March, 2006.



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**If you are aggrieved by this final agency order, you may appeal this final order to the Rhode Island Superior Court within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of this notice of final decision pursuant to the provisions for judicial review established by the Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act, specifically, R.I. Gen Laws § 42-35-15.**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that I have mailed a copy of the within Administrative Decision by regular mail, postage prepaid, to Howard A. Merten, Esquire, Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP, 180 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903 on this 31<sup>ST</sup> day of March 2006.

