

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION
THREE CAPITOL HILL
PROVIDENCE, RI 02908**

In the Matter of:

Kathleen Cullen, LPN (LPN08329)

Respondent.

:
:
:
:
:
:
:

A.H. File No. (HSR) PN10-121

LETTER OF REPRIMAND

The above-entitled matter came before the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education ("Board") pursuant to an Administrative Hearing Notice issued on October 28, 2011 ("Notice") by the Board to Kathleen Cullen ("Respondent"). Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-1 *et seq.*, the Respondent holds a license ("License") as a Practical Nurse. This matter came for hearing on December 12, 2011 pursuant to a request for a hearing by the Respondent received by the Board on April 12, 2011. See Department's Exhibit Four (4) (request for hearing). Because of problem with the delivery of the Notice, a further hearing was held on January 9, 2012. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-1 *et seq.*, *Rules and Regulations for the Licensing of Nurses and Standards for the Approval of Basic Nursing Education Programs*, and the *Rules and Regulations of the Department of Health Regarding Practices and Procedures Before the Department of Health and Access to Public Records of the Department of Health*.

Charles Alexandre, Administrator of the Board, testified on behalf of the Board regarding a consented to letter of reprimand issued on November 5, 2010 by the State of

Maine Nursing Board to the Respondent because of the Respondent's failure to administer medication to patients and documenting said medication as given. See Department's Exhibit Three (3).

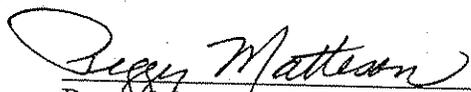
The Respondent testified on her behalf. She testified that she signed the Maine Consent Agreement rather than go to a full hearing. She testified that she has been licensed in Rhode Island for eleven (11) years and had been employed in Rhode Island for six (6) years before moving to Maine but returned to her old job upon returning to Rhode Island from Maine but subsequently was employed elsewhere though is currently on medical leave. She testified there has never been a complaint against her in Rhode Island.

On the basis of the forgoing, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-34-24, the Board makes the following order:

1. A letter of reprimand is issued to the Respondent based on the Maine Consent Agreement.
2. Within six (6) months of this decision, the Respondent shall complete a continuing education course offered by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in Medication Errors that is for 6.9 hours. Failure to comply with requirement may lead to further disciplinary action by the Board.¹

By Order of the Board,

Date: 1/12/2012


Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD, Chair

¹ The Respondent shall forward her proof of compliance with the CE to Charles Alexandre at the Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908.

NOTICE OF APPELLATE RIGHTS

PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS § 5-34-28, THIS DECISION MAY BE APPEALED TO THE SUPERIOR COURT WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR BY SERVING THE DIRECTOR WITH A NOTICE OF APPEAL AND FILING SUCH NOTICE IN SUPERIOR COURT. APPEALS ARE GOVERNED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT, R.I. GEN. LAWS § 42-35-1 *et seq.*

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify on this 18th day of January, 2012 that a copy of the within Decision and Notice of Appellate Rights was sent by first class mail, postage prepaid and certified mail, return receipt requested to -

Ms. Kathleen Cullen
Apt. N203
125 Providence Street
West Warwick, RI 02893

and by hand-delivery to Jennifer Sternick, Esquire, Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Room 204, Providence, RI 02908.

