

State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

Debra L. Patterson (C08-164)

ORDER

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. (2001 Reenactment) Section 23-17.9-8 and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, the Rhode Island Department of Health (hereinafter "Department"), after review and consultation with the Advisory Board for Nursing Assistants, has investigated a complaint charging Debra L. Patterson (NA15807) (hereinafter "Respondent") with a violation of Section 23-17.9-8 of the General Laws.

After consideration by the Department, the following constitutes the Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent:

1. Respondent is a Nursing Assistant licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island.
2. That all pertinent times, Respondent was employed by Homefront Health Care in Woonsocket, RI.
3. That is, on or about February 26, 2008, the Respondent was under the influence of alcohol while caring for a home care client.
4. That the conduct described in paragraph three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to Section 23-17.9-8 and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.

Based on the foregoing, the Rhode Island Department of Health hereby enters the following:

1. That this Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding.
2. That Respondent must work in a supervised environment and is prohibited from home care.
3. That should Respondent fail to comply with the terms of this Order, Respondent shall be subject to further disciplinary sanctions.
4. That Respondent is issued the sanction of a Reprimand.

Ordered this 20th day of January 2009


Pamela L. McCue, RN, MS
Director, Health Professions Regulation