**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**
**AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**
**HEALTH SERVICES REGULATIONS**

**vs.**

**ELVIRA MATTHEWS, N.A. (CO6-038)**

## ORDER

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws (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 Elvira Matthews (NA20922) (hereinafter "Respondent") with a violation of Section 23-17.9-8 of the General Laws.

After consideration by the Department, the following constitutes the Finds 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 at all pertinent times, Respondent was employed by Orchard View Manor & Rehabilitation Center, E. Providence, Rhode Island.

3. That on or about 15 January 2005, Respondent entered a resident's room screaming in response to the resident ringing the call light.

4. That the conduct described in paragraph three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to Section 23-17.9-8 of the Rhode Island General Laws and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.

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

1. The nursing assistant license issued to the Respondent is hereby put on probation for a period of one (1) year commencing on 25 October 2006.

2. That the probationary period will be in effect upon employment of the Respondent as a nursing assistant in a licensed health care facility, and will abate for any period when the Respondent is not employed as a nursing assistant.

3. Respondent will notify the Department of any lapse in employment and the probation will be extended until one (1) year of employment as a nursing assistant is completed.

4. That during the period of probation, Respondent must attend in-service programs in each year to include at least one (1) hour on the topic(s) of patient's rights. It shall be the responsibility of the Respondent to have the employer(s) submit quarterly reports of the number of hours of in-service Respondent has attended for that previous quarter, until such time that the in-service has been completed.

5. Respondent will require supervision. This stipulation will be documented and reported to the Department by a supervising registered nurse.

6. That during the period of probation, the Respondent's employer(s) shall submit quarterly reports to the Board relating to the Respondent's conduct and performance that it shall be the responsibility of Respondent to have the employer(s) submit said reports. Reports will be due on 25 February, 25 May, 25 August and 25 October 2007.

7. That during the period of probation, should Respondent change employment, Respondent shall notify the Board forthwith of said changes including the name and address of the new employer(s), date Respondent commences said employment and the reason for the change in employment.

8. That during the period of probation, Respondent will be prohibited from working in a community based setting (i.e., home nursing care provider) or any setting in which Respondent will be providing care without supervision.

9. That should Respondent comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing assistants and comply with the requirements of this Order, Respondent may apply to the Department for relief from probation.

10. That should Respondent fail to comply with the terms of this Order, Respondent's registration as a nursing assistant will be subject to suspension or other appropriate disciplinary action.

11. That this Order shall be in full force and effect pending further Order of the Department.

Ordered on this 12th day of October 2006

Charles Alexandre

Charles Alexandre, Chief
Health Professions Regulation