

State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

KIMA HOWARD, NA (CO5-758)

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 Kima Howard (NA28838) (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 on or about 2 August 2004, Respondent's license to practice as a nursing assistant was placed on probation for a period of one (1) year in that on or about 17 April 2004, Respondent was verbally and physically abusive to a resident. In that, Respondent insisted that a resident pivot on her right foot even though the resident informed her that she could not. She also shouted at the resident "not to move" when she was taking her blood pressure; in that on or about 18 June 2005, Respondent was found to not be in compliance with said Order.
3. That is, on or about 28 October 2004, Respondent initially refused to assist a resident OOB to BR. Respondent then responded to resident's request by roughly assisting the resident OOB to BR. While resident was in the BR, Respondent opened the door without knocking and began undressing the resident without explanation of what she was doing.
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. Nursing Assistant license issued to the Respondent is hereby suspended for a period of not less than three (3) year's commencing upon the 10 April 2006.

2. At the time Respondent seeks reinstatement of the Nursing Assistant license, Respondent shall submit documentation to the Board evidencing that Respondent is capable and competent to engage in the practice of Nursing Assistant. In addition, Respondent must meet all education requirements for licensure in effect at the time Respondent applies for licensure.
3. That should Respondent fail to comply with the terms of this Order, Respondent shall be subject to further disciplinary sanctions.
4. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect pending further Order by the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Ordered this 30 day of March 2006



Charles Alexandre, Chief
Health Professions Regulation