

State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health  
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

**MABEL TAPIA, NA (CO4-280)**

**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 complaint charging Mable Tapia (NA26789) (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 13 September 2004, Respondent entered into a Order with the Department wherein Respondent's nursing assistant license was placed on a two (2) years period of probationary status for being arrested and pleading nolo contendere to one (1) count Conspiracy to Violate Control Substances Act on 7 October 1998; and two (2) counts of driving without/expired license, for which you plead nolo contendere on 17 May 2002 and 3 December 2003; and one (1) count of Misdemeanor Shoplifting for which you plead nolo contendere on 28 May 2002. That on or about 21 November 2005, Respondent was found not to be in compliance with said Order. That Respondent is not in compliance with said Order in that the required reports have not been submitted.
3. That pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Order, Respondent is responsible for having quarterly performance evaluations submitted to the Department by a supervising registered nurse. The performance evaluation(s) from each health facility employer must recommend continued employment and satisfactory performance.
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 and is a violation of the Order.

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 two (2) years commencing upon the 2 December 2005.
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 22 day of November 2005

Charles Alexandre  
Charles Alexandre, Chief  
Health Professions Regulation