State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

PAULA TORTOLANO, NA (CO6-336)

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 Paula Tortolano (NA29782) (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 at all pertinent times, Respondent was employed by St. Elizabeth Home, E. Greenwich, Rhode Island.
3. That on or about 27 March 2006, Respondent took one-hundred twenty dollars ($120) from the petty cash box in the facility's activities department and pled nolo contendere to a one (1) count of larceny <$500.00.
4. The conduct described in paragraph three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct in Section 23-17.9-8, and Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder.

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

1. Nursing Assistant certification issued to the Respondent is hereby revoked for a period of not less than two (2) years commencing on 20 February 2007.
2. At the time Respondent seeks reinstatement of the Nursing Assistant certification, 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 6th day of February 2007

Charles Alexandre

Charles Alexandre, Chief
Health Professions Regulation