State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

Susan Elizabeth Murphy (C10-334)

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 Susan Elizabeth Murphy (NA36558) (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 Cathleen Naughton, Inc., Providence, RI.

3. That is, on or about May 18, 2010, Respondent drove through a red light, while transporting a home care client, on a scheduled shift. Client concerned that Respondent was under the influence of alcohol while caring for client.

4. That is, on or about May 20, 2010, Respondent slept for two hours during Respondent's assigned shift to care for another home care client, who required twenty-four hour supervision. Client awakened Respondent to provide required care. Respondent admitted she was sleeping while on duty and the client awakened her. Client concerned Respondent was under the influence of alcohol while caring for client in the past.

5. That is, on more than one occasion, agency staff smelled alcohol on the Respondent. Subsequent to the agency's recommendation that Respondent seek treatment, Respondent successfully complete a Board approved treatment program.

6. That the conduct described in paragraphs three (3), four (4) and five (5) herein constitute 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:

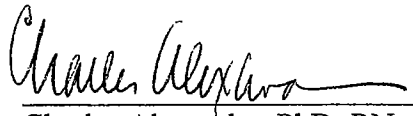
1. That this Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding.

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 25th day of January 2011



Charles Alexandre, PhD, RN
Chief, Health Professions Regulation