State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Office of Health Professions Regulation

vs.

Tara Elaine Austin (C10-286)

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 Tara Elaine Austin (NA36884) (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 Pawtuxet Village Care & Rehabilitation Center, Warwick, RI.

3. That is, on or about May 10, 2010, Respondent admitted to taking a resident's Xanex medication for personal use.

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. 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 15th day of July 2010

Charles Alexandre

Charles Alexandre, PhD, RN
Chief, Health Professions Regulation