

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

91 7108 2133 3938 6624 0530

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH :
BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION :
AND NURSING EDUCATION :

vs.

Case #:RN09-041

ARTHUR L. DEMEDEIROS :
LICENSE NO. RN36931 :

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Arthur L. Demedeiros (hereinafter "Respondent") is a registered nurse pursuant to R.I. General Laws § 5-34-11 and holds license number RN46672. He is presently an employee of Morgan Health Center, Morgan Ave, Johnston, , RI 02919.

Respondent is on a Diversionary Contract (hereinafter Contract) for substance abuse treatment with the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (hereinafter Board) and the Board has received information that he is in violation of such Contract. Specifically:

1. On or about April 29, 2009, Respondent was employed at Hopkins Manor, Smithfield, RI 02904. At that time, and then again on June 18,2009 it was alleged that he diverted controlled substances (opiates) from Hopkins Manor and appeared impaired at work.
2. Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Order on September 3, 2009, and agreed to place his registered nurse license on inactive status until a substance abuse evaluation was completed by a substance abuse professional approved by the Board and such substance abuse professional recommended that he is able and competent to return to the practice of nursing.

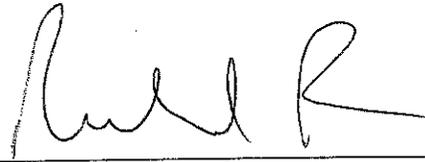
3. On November 4, 2013, Respondent entered into a Diversion Contract with the Board of Nursing enabling him to work under the terms and conditions of said Diversion Contract.. The Board agreed to hold the complaint in abeyance if Respondent admitted to having a substance abuse problem and agreed to remain in the Diversion Contract for treatment of such problem.
4. Pursuant to the Diversion Contract, Respondent agreed, among other things, to:
 - a. Comply with all provisions of the contract;
 - b. To abstain from alcohol, drugs and/or chemicals of abuse;
 - c. Participate in Body Fluid Toxicology Screening Program approved by the Board;
 - d. Request any health care provider not to prescribe any mood altering drugs and or controlled substances for him unless there was no other reasonable alternative;
 - e. Notify the Board if such drugs were needed as part of his medical care;
 - f. If he was not compliant with the Contract, he was subject to disciplinary action against his license including suspension or other appropriate action
5. The Diversion Contract went into effect on November 4, 2013 upon ratification by the Board.
6. In January 2014, Respondent informed the Board that he was working as a nurse at Morgan Health Center.
7. On April 3, 2014, Twila McInnis, Director of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education, received a letter via facsimile from Sylvester Sviokla, M.D., A.B.A.M., Respondent's Substance Abuse Treatment Provider, stating that the Respondent tested positive for an opiate Tramadol. The specimen was collected on March 20, 2014 and tested on March 31, 2014 by Dominion Diagnostics.

8. Respondent allegedly informed Dr. Sviokla that he did not have a prescription for Tramadol,. He admitted to taking a dose from an old prescription of Tramadol for pain.
9. As a result of the above, Dr. Sviokla now recommends that he not be allowed to participate in direct patient care.
10. Tramadol is a controlled substance.
11. Respondent violated the terms of the Diversion Contract by taking Tramadol without notification from a health care provider that such medication was necessary for his medical care and that there was no reasonable alternative.
12. In the Diversion Contract, Respondent admitted to having a substance abuse problem, agreed to undergo substance abuse treatment and agreed to undergo toxicology screens. A toxicology screen indicates that he has now relapsed.

Based upon the foregoing, the Director of Health has determined that the continuation of the license of Respondent in Nursing constitutes an imminent threat to the health, welfare and safety of the public. Accordingly, the nursing license of Respondent is hereby **suspended effective immediately** pursuant to R.I. General Laws § 5-34-26. Said **Suspension** shall continue indefinitely pending further Order of the Department of Health. **A hearing on this matter is scheduled for April 11, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. at the Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Room 404, Providence, Rhode Island 02908 before an Administrative Law**

Hearing Officer. For question, please contact Jane Morgan, Esq., at (401)222-1685.

Signed this 4th day of April , 2014.



Michael Fine, MD
Director of Health
R.I. Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill, Room 401
Providence, RI 02908-5097
Tel. (401) 222-2213
Fax (401) 222-6548

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the within SUMMARY SUSPENSION was sent by regular and certified mail to:

8 Midland Drive
West Warwick RI, 02893

on this _____ day of _____ 2014.
