

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION  
BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION  
AND NURSING EDUCATION**

vs.

**COLLEEN PINELLI, RN (RN35734)**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to Section 5-34-25 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2004 Reenactment, a complaint was filed with the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging Colleen Pinelli, RN, Respondent, with violation of Chapter 5-34 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 2004 Reenactment.

After consideration by the Investigating Subcommittee of the Board, the following constitutes the Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent.

1. That on June 16, 2006 the Respondent received a monetary sanction and reprimand from the Florida Board of Nursing for testing positive for Cocaine on a pre-employment drug screen. In addition, the Respondent was referred for a substance abuse evaluation and to the Florida Intervention Project for Nurses. Subsequently the Respondent's Florida registered nurse license was suspended for failure to meet the terms of the final order.
2. That on February 27, 2008 the Respondent failed to disclose information regarding previous disciplinary actions taken against her Florida registered nurse license while renewing her license in Rhode Island.
3. That on March 24, 2008 the Respondent was arrested by the Johnston Police Department and charged with 4 Felony Counts of Possession of controlled substances (Cocaine).

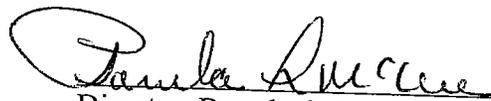
Based upon the foregoing, the Board hereby enters the following Order:

That the conduct described in paragraph 1 and 2 above constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Sections 5-34-19 (4) in that the Respondent's actions fail to conform to the standards established by the nursing profession.

1. That the registered nurse license issued to the Respondent is hereby suspended effective June 16, 2008.
2. That at the time Respondent seeks reinstatement of her registered nurse license, she shall submit documentation to the Board evidencing that she is capable and competent to engage in the practice of nursing.
3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect pending further Order of the Board.

Entered as an Order of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education at a meeting held on June 9, 2008.

Date: 6/16/08  
June 16, 2008

  
Director, Board of Nurse Registration  
and Nursing Education