


STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
D E P A R T M E N T O F H E A L T H

Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

IN THE MATTER OF:

KEITH M. BRODEUR, RN

A.H. FILE NO. (HSR) 2002-24

Case Travel

This matter came to be heard before the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (hereinafter "Board") of the Rhode Island Department of Health pursuant to an Administrative Notice dated May 8, 2002 which charged the Respondent, Keith M. Brodeur, R.N., with violations of the nurse practice act in that while employed as a registered nurse at Mount Saint Francis Health Center, Woonsocket, RI. The charges allege that the Respondent:

1. Had inappropriate contact with a female patient on or about March 16, 2002.
2. On July 17, 2000 entered a Nolo Contendere Plea to a charge of Driving under the Influence First Offense.
3. On December 26, 2000 plead Nolo Contendere to two misdemeanor charges of Simple Assault and Battery and received a sentence of one-year probation and one year home confinement.
4. On July 26, 2001 plead Nolo Contendere to a felony charge of Willful Trespass and Simple Assault and was sentenced to a one year suspended sentence with one year probation, a no contact order with the victim was issued along with substance abuse counseling and anger management counseling. The Administrative Hearing Notice stated that pursuant to R.I.G.L. §5-34-24(3)&(6)(v) this conduct constituted unprofessional conduct and is grounds for discipline. This matter was scheduled to be heard on June 10, 2002 but was continued to Monday 9 September 2002. The

Administrative Hearing Notice was sent registered mail and evidence in the record indicates that the Respondent signed a return receipt card acknowledging receipt of notice and opportunity to be heard.

The Department of Health was represented by Gregory Madoian, Esq. The Respondent failed to appear. Respondent's counsel of record sent a letter to the Director of Nursing dated September 6, 2002 outlining his attempts to contact his client. Those attempts were unavailing, according to the letter.

Exhibits and testimony considered in this Order are as follows:

1. Hearing Notice
2. Respondent's attorney letter
3. State court's criminal history of the Respondent
4. Testimony of Ralph Reininger, Director of Nursing at Mt. St. Francis Health Center
5. Richard Tammaro, Chief of Investigations, Department of Health

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent is a registered nurse licensed in Rhode Island since January of 1988.
2. Respondent was employed at the Mount St. Francis Health Center at the time of the incidents described in the Administrative Hearing Notice and was a licensed nurse during that period.
3. Respondent failed to appear to defend these charges.
4. Respondent took a patient of the center out to lunch, and later, back to his apartment and lowered her pants to her ankles. Respondent was dismissed from employment at the health center following notification of the director of nursing of these actions.
5. Respondent has a criminal history of behavior dating to June 2000 and continuing to July 2001 that indicates a pattern of substance abuse coupled with a pattern of criminal behavior. Such criminal behavior includes assault, assault on a police officer, disorderly conduct, breaking and entering and felony trespass and assault.
6. The above conduct was committed while engaged in employment as a registered nurse and licensed as such. This conduct is a violation of the nurse practice act as charged in the Administrative Hearing and constitutes a substantial and immediate danger to patients.

Order

The Respondent, Keith M. Brodeur, R.N., is guilty of "unprofessional conduct" in violation of § 5-34-24(3)&(6)(v). The Respondent's license as a Registered Nurse is hereby **Revoked**.

The Respondent has 30 days with which to appeal this Decision to the Superior Court of the State of Rhode Island.

Entered on this 19th day of September 2002.

Mary Dowd Struck, RN
Diane Shulver, LPN
Sue Day, R.N.
Eve Sweeney, RN
Deborah G. Brown, RN
Deborah Correira, RN


President Board of Nursing

9/19/02
Date

Certification

I hereby certify that on September 20th 2002 a copy of this order was sent to the following individuals postage prepaid:

Gregory Madoian, Esq.
Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill, Rm. 404
Providence, R.I. 02908

Keith M. Brodeur, RN
74 Hamlet Ave. Apt.21
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Carole Allsworth