# OFFICE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

# BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION

IN THE MATTER OF:

CHRISTINE LOMBARDO LICENSE NUMBER: LPN11381 CASE C22-0206

## **CONSENT ORDER**

Pursuant to Rhode Island Gen. Laws §5-34-25 of the Rhode Island General Laws and the regulations promulgated thereunder, a complaint ("Complaint") was filed with the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education ("Board"), accusing Christine Lombardo ("Respondent"), a practical nurse (license LPN11381), with a violation of Chapter 5-34 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island.

After review and consideration with respect to the allegations of unprofessional conduct of Respondent, the Board has made the following:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Respondent is a practical nurse licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island under license LPN11381.
- 2. That on or about February 12, 2022, the Respondent was working as a licensed practical nurse at the Heatherwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Newport, Rhode Island.
- 3. That on or about February 14, 2022, RIDOH received a complaint alleging that the Respondent failed to document a resident fall, failed to call the provider to report the fall, and failed to contact the resident's family member about a fall.
- 4. That on October 17, 2022, the Respondent appeared before an Investigative Committee of the Board to respond to the allegations against them and the Board accepted her statements as fact. The Respondent stated that she was notified that a resident had fallen, and when she went to the resident's room, she observed the resident in the bed and visualized no apparent injury. The Respondent acknowledged she did not respond appropriately to the fall and conduct an assessment after the fall. She further stated that based on the lack of assessment, she did not document the fall, and failed to contact the provider and a family member about the fall. The Respondent admitted that she was notified of the resident's injury as she was

- "punched out and heading towards the door" at the end of her shift and continued to leave the building.
- 5. The findings of facts described in paragraphs one (1) through four (4) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Rhode Island Gen. Laws § 5-34-24(6)(v), unprofessional conduct as she willfully disregarded the standards of nursing practice and failed to maintain standards established by the nursing profession.

# **AGREEMENT:**

The Board and Respondent (together, the "Parties") hereby agree as follows:

- 1. The Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- 2. Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands the contents herein are binding on Respondent as a final action by the Board.
- 3. The Respondent understands the purpose of this Consent Order is solely to resolve the Complaint.
- 4. Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
  - a) The right to appear personally or by counsel before the Board;
  - b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in her behalf at a hearing;
  - c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;
  - d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
  - e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
  - f) Any and all right of appeal of this Consent Order;
  - g) Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
  - h) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Consent Order;
  - i) Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order to the Board.
- 5. This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and accepted by the Board.
- 6. The Respondent's license to practice nursing is suspended for one (1) year, provided however, said suspension is stayed on the condition Respondent provides the Board monthly reports from her supervisor/Director of Nursing stating the Respondent is performing focused assessments, documenting accordingly, and providing appropriate reports to oncoming staff.

- 7. The Respondent will remain on one (1) year probation should she comply with the above reporting. If the Respondent does not comply with the above reporting, the stay of license suspension will be vacated, and Respondent's license may be immediately suspended.
- 8. The Respondent voluntarily agrees to accept the sanction of one year Probation with stayed suspension against her license as a practical nurse from the date of signature of this order.
- 9. That should Respondent fail to comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing and/or fail to comply with the terms of the Consent Order, her license as a practical nurse may be subject to other appropriate disciplinary action.

### **DISPOSITION OF THE COMPLAINT:**

Accordingly, and based on the foregoing, the Parties hereby agree to the following disposition of the Complaint:

- 1. That Respondent is hereby issued the sanction of Probation with a stayed suspension.
- 2. That this Consent Order shall become part of a public record of this proceeding.

CHRISTINE LOMBARDO

LPN11381

Date Signed: 1/4/2023

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President, Board of Nursing Registration and Nursing Education

Date Signed: 13 Feb 2023