



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND LICENSING
NURSING ASSISTANT ADVISORY BOARD**

IN RE: MELISSA DAWN CORDEIRO

LICENSE NUMBER: NA48239

CASE NO.: C22-1432A, C22-1432B, & C22-1432C

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws §23-17.9-1 *et seq.* and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, 216-RICR-40-05-22, the Rhode Island Department of Health has investigated this Complaint charging Respondent, Melissa Dawn Cordeiro, with a violation of R.I. Gen Laws §23-17.9-1 *et seq.*

After review and consideration by RIDOH with respect to the allegations of unprofessional conduct, the following are and shall constitute,

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. That Respondent is licensed to practice in Rhode Island under Nursing Assistant License NA48239.
2. That at all times relevant hereto, Respondent was employed by Nursing Placement, 588 Pawtucket Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860 and assigned to work as a nursing assistant at the home of patient K.R. from October 28, 2022 until December 11, 2022.
3. That between October 28, 2022 and December 11, 2022, Respondent a) fraudulently reported to her employer that she had worked at the home of K.R. when she had not; b) was living with patient K.R. as patient K.R. had moved into Respondent's apartment; and c) had sent text messages and made statements to patient K.R. regarding Respondent's interest in having a romantic relationship with patient K.R.

4. That the conduct described in paragraphs three (3) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws §23-17.9-1 *et seq.* and the Rules and Regulations promulgated there under.
5. That Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of RIDOH and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of RIDOH.
6. That Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands this Consent Order shall become binding once signed by Respondent and RIDOH.
7. That Respondent understands the purpose of this Consent Order is solely to resolve the Complaint.
8. That Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a) The right to have an administrative hearing on this matter;
 - b) The right to represent oneself or be represented by an attorney of Respondent's own choosing at said hearing;
 - c) The right to present testimony, evidence and witnesses on Respondent's behalf;
 - d) The right to cross-examine witnesses presented by RIDOH;
 - e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
 - f) The right to take an appeal from the terms of this Consent Order; and
 - g) Any objection that this Consent Order will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank as well as posted on RIDOH's public website.

ACCORDINGLY, AND BASED ON THE FOREGOING

RIDOH and Respondent hereby agree to the following disposition of this Complaint:


9. Respondent is hereby issued the sanction of Probation, starting the day this Consent Order is last executed (the "Effective Date").
10. Commencing with the Effective Date:
 - a) Respondent's Nursing Assistant license will be subject to a two (2) year period of probation and Respondent's license shall reflect the status "Active Probation."
 - b) Respondent must be employed at a hospital or nursing facility.

- c) The probationary period will abate for the duration of any period in which Respondent ceases to be employed as a Nursing Assistant.
- d) Respondent will notify RIDOH of any lapse in employment and the probation period will be extended until the required employment as a Nursing Assistant is completed.
- e) Respondent must provide RIDOH with the name and address of any new employer(s) and the reason for said change.
- f) Respondent shall provide his employer with a copy of this Consent Order and a quarterly performance report form provided to him by RIDOH.
- g) When Respondent complies with the laws and regulations governing the practice of Nursing Assistants during the period of probation and with the requirements of this Consent Order, Respondent may apply to RIDOH for an unrestricted license to practice as a Nursing Assistant.


11. Respondent acknowledges that:

- a) this Consent Order is an agreement between Respondent and RIDOH;
- b) RIDOH is relying upon Respondent's compliance with these terms and conditions as an inducement to enter into this Consent Order; and
- c) any violation or failure to adhere to the terms of this Consent Order shall constitute unprofessional conduct and subject Respondent to further disciplinary action at the discretion of RIDOH, including but not limited to Suspension or Revocation.

12. This Consent Order shall become a permanent part of Respondent's record maintained by RIDOH and a part of a public record of this proceeding.



 MELISSA DAWN CORDEIRO
 LICENSEE NO.: NA48239



 BRUCE TODESCO, Chief
 Center for Professional Boards and
 Licensing

Date Signed:

8/9/2023

Date Signed:

8-24-2023