

## RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND LICENSING

IN THE MATTER OF: ROXANNE GOMES

LICENSEE NO.: NA 50865 COMPLAINT ID #: C24-0300

## **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 ("RIDOH") has investigated Complaint No. C24-0300(the "Complaint") charging ROXANNE GOMES, nursing assistant license number NA 50865 ("Respondent"), with violations 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 of Respondent, the following are and shall constitute

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. That Respondent is a Nursing Assistant licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island under Nursing Assistant License Number NA 50865.
- 2. That on or about March 21, 2024, Respondent was employed as a nursing assistant at a nursing facility.
- 3. That on or about March 21, 2024, Respondent clocked in at the facility at 8:18 a.m. for a scheduled shift that began at 8:00 a.m. and ended at 3:00 p.m., and clocked out at 9:51 a.m. and left the facility, thus abandoning residents of the facility in her care.
- 4. The Respondent contends that she left the facility because she had been assigned to take care of 15 residents on one hallway by herself when two other hallways of 11-12 residents each had two nursing assistants assigned to each hallway, which she felt was unfair and unsafe because there was not enough time in the day for her to attend to the needs of 15 residents. In addition, she had never taken care of these residents before and was not provided with any reports regarding their needs from the nursing staff before starting work on the hallway. As a result of being placed in this stressful situation, Respondent suffered a panic

- attack and was unable to complete her shift. Respondent immediately sought treatment for the panic attack and has successfully responded to treatment.
- 5. That the conduct described in paragraph 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.
- 6. That Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of RIDOH and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of RIDOH.
- 7. That Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands this Consent Order shall become binding once signed by Respondent and RIDOH.
- 8. That Respondent understands the purpose of this Consent Order is solely to resolve the Complaint.
- 9. 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 (i) be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, (ii) become a permanent part of Respondent's record maintained by RIDOH and a part of the public record of this proceeding, or (iii) be 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 a Reprimand, effective on the day this Consent Order is last executed.
- 10. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an agreement between Respondent and RIDOH.

POXCUMUL Hamps (Far Bruce Taker a)

ROXANNE GOMES
LICENSEE NO. NA 50865

Date Signed:

Date Signed:

T/10/3034

POXCUMUL Hamps (Far Bruce Taker a)

Bruce D. Todesco, Chief
Center for Professional Boards and Licensing

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