

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY
CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND LICENSING
BOARD OF NURSING REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION**

**IN THE MATTER OF: CHRISTOPHER CERIO
LICENSEE NO.: RN66120
COMPLAINT ID #: C23-0049**

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

Pursuant to § 5-34-25 of the Rhode Island General Laws and §§ 40-05-3.14 and 10-05-4 of volume 216 of the Rhode Island Code of Regulations, a complaint (the "Complaint") was filed with the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education (the "Board"), charging Christopher Cerio (the "Respondent"), a licensed registered nurse (license RN66120), with a violation of Chapter 5-34 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island.

After review and consideration by the Board 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 registered nurse licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island under License Number RN66120.
2. That on or about January 16, 2023, the Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at an acute care facility in Rhode Island.
3. That on or about January 17, 2023, the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) received a complaint alleging that the Respondent, during the course of caring for an aggressive patient in four-point restraints who was verbally threatening staff and wearing a spit guard, used inappropriate restraint techniques.
4. The facility where the incident occurred performed an investigation, which included interviews with staff who were present at time of the incident and claim to have witnessed the inappropriate restraint techniques.
5. That an Investigative Committee (IC) of the Board reviewed the allegations and relevant evidence and reached a preliminary determination that Respondent violated the standards of nursing practice.

6. That the conduct alleged in paragraph three (3), four (4) and five (5) herein constitutes unprofessional conduct as defined in Rhode Island Gen. Laws § 5-34-24(6) (v) and violates the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Nurses.

AGREEMENT:

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


1. That Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
2. That Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of an Investigative Committee of the Board and is subject to final ratification by the Board. This Consent Order and the contents herein are not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
3. 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 on their 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 the Board reviewing this Consent Order may be the same as the hearing committee presiding over this matter should it later be brought to an administrative hearing.
 - j) 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.
4. 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.
5. Respondent's acceptance of this Consent Order is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by Respondent that the law or regulations have been violated as alleged.
6. Respondent voluntarily agrees to accept the sanction of a Reprimand against their license as a registered nurse.
7. 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, their license as a registered

nurse may be subject to other appropriate disciplinary action subject to a full reservation of Respondent's rights.

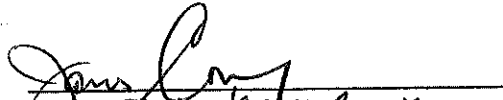
DISPOSITION OF THE COMPLAINT:

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 a Reprimand.
2. That this Consent Order shall become part of a public record of this proceeding.


CHRISTOPHER CERIO
LICENSEE NO.: RN66120

Date Signed: 07/18/2024


James Conway
President, Board of Nursing
Secretary,

Date Signed: 7-22-24

Ratified as an order of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education at a meeting held on this 22nd day of July, 2024.