

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: UCHENNA AJONUMA
LICENSEE NO.: RN58270
COMPLAINT ID #: C22-1361**

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 Uchenna Ajonuma (the “Respondent”), a licensed registered nurse (license RN58270), 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 RN58270.
2. That on or about January 16, 2022, the Respondent was working as a registered nurse at nursing home.
3. That on or about November 17, 2022, the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) received a complaint alleging unprofessional practice by the Respondent while working at a long term care facility. According to the complaint, on November 12, 2022, the nurse allegedly did not perform CPR on a full code resident until 1 hour and 45 minutes after the resident was found deceased.
4. That on February 13, 2023, the Respondent appeared before an Investigative Committee of the Board to respond to the allegation. The Respondent admitted that, they were anxious and troubled when they were notified of the resident’s unresponsiveness and proceeded to sit in a chair for 20 minutes to collect themselves before assessing the resident.
5. The Respondent stated that they were unable to determine the resident’s code status, which delayed the administration of CPR.

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 Investigating 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 constitutes an admission by Respondent that the Board's factual findings and legal conclusions, as contained herein, are accurate and correct.
6. Respondent voluntarily agrees to accept the sanction of a Reprimand with remediation against their license as a registered nurse.
7. **The remediation shall consist of the Respondent attending a Basic Life Support class for Healthcare Providers and provide proof of passing this class to the state's Director of Nursing within 45 days.**
8. 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.

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

UCHENNA AJONUMA
LICENSEE NO.: RN58270

Date Signed: _____

Uchenma Ajonuma
6/30/23

Tracey Gnaatt
Tracey Gnaatt
President, Board of Nursing

Date Signed: _____

17 July 2023

Ratified as an order of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education at a meeting held on this 17th day of July, 2023.