

STATE OF MAINE BOARD OF NURSING 158 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0158

PAUL R. Li PAI GOVERNOR MYRA A. BROADWAY, JD. M.S., RN. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN RE: ROBIN HILL BUZZELL, RN)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
of Woolwich, Maine)	FOR LICENSE PROBATION
License #RN48006)	WITH CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement ("Agreement") regarding Robin Hill Buzzell's license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (1-A) (B) and 10 M.R.S. § 8003(5) (B). The parties to this Agreement are Robin Hill Buzzell ("Licensee" or "Ms. Buzzell"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board"), and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. An informal conference was held on February 4, 2010 and continued on March 23, 2010. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of: 1) a Board Notice of Complaint dated April 6, 2009 regarding a February 2009 conviction for Driving to Endanger; 2) Robin Hill Buzzell's response received May 22, 2009; and 3) supplemental treatment provider information received February 12, 2010.

FACTS

- Robin Hill Buzzell has been a registered professional nurse licensed to practice in Maine since October 22, 2002.
- 2. Robin Hill Buzzell was arrested on August 29, 2007 for Operating Under the Influence, Possession of a Usable Amount of Marijuana, Sale/Use of Drug Paraphernalia, and Operating Beyond License Restrictions. In her possession were a bag of marijuana and pipe, prescription for Catapres TTS Patch, generic Percocet, empty prescription bottles of Oxycodone HCL 5mg and Oxycontin, and two newly filled prescriptions of Oxycontin. Ms. Buzzell admitted to the arresting officer that she had consumed two beers and takes Oxycodone, Klonadine, and Lexapro. She stated she was not drunk and the medications she takes are prescribed for her following spinal surgery in January 2007. She could not remember if she had smoked marijuana that day. A toxicological specimen tested positive for Cannabinoids, Oxycodone, and Citalopram.
- 3. Robin Hill Buzzell pled guilty to Driving to Endanger on February 25, 2009; she received a \$500 fine and 90-day driver's license suspension.
- 4. Robin Hill Buzzell was referred to the Addiction Resource Center at MidCoast Hospital in January 2007 to receive assistance in getting off Oxycodone which had been prescribed following neck and back surgeries. In January 2008, she completed an assessment for chemical dependency and was accepted into an Intensive Outpatient Program for medication assisted treatment; she attended six individual sessions with a staff psychiatrist as well as 18 group therapy sessions. In January 2009, Ms. Buzzell had progressed sufficiently to warrant monthly sessions. She continues on Suboxone therapy and states she has not been opiate dependent for over five years.
- 5. Robin Hill Buzzell consistently receives monthly counseling from the Addiction Resource Center and is receiving tapering doses of Suboxone treatment with the intent of actively ending her use altogether. She continues to undergo random drug tests which have consistently been negative for drugs. She also receives acupuncture treatment which is beneficial to her back pain.
- 6. Robin Hill Buzzell wishes to resolve this matter by accepting this Agreement and thereby waives her right to an adjudicatory hearing.



AGREEMENT WITH CONDITIONS OF PROBATION

- 7. Robin Hill Buzzell agrees and understands that based upon the above-stated facts, this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice registered professional nursing in Maine. The grounds for discipline are under 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (2) (F), (2) (G), (2) (H) and Chapter 4(1) (A) (6) and 4(1) (A) (8) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Specifically the violations are:
 - a. 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (2) (F). Unprofessional Conduct. Ms. Buzzell engaged in unprofessional conduct because she violated a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which she is licensed. See: Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.
 - b. 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (2) (G). Conviction of a crime . . . that relates directly to the practice for which the licensee is licensed or conviction of a crime for which incarceration for one year or more may be imposed. See: Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.7.
 - c. 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (2) (H). A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the Board. See: Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.8.
- 8. Robin Hill Buzzell's license as a registered professional nurse in the State of Maine is placed on probationary status with conditions. The period of probation will be for a period of five (5) years, effective only while she is employed in nursing practice and/or enrolled in a clinical nursing education program. For purposes of this Agreement, nursing employment is any employment during which Ms. Buzzell performs nursing services. Her probationary license will be subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Robin Hill Buzzell shall fully comply with the conditions of the probation in this Agreement and cooperate with the representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of her compliance with probation. She shall inform the Board in writing within 15 days of any address change.
 - b. Robin Hill Buzzell will abstain completely from the use of alcohol and drugs, with the exception of substances used in accordance with a valid prescription from a health care provider who is aware of her substance abuse history.
 - c. Robin Hill Buzzell must enroll and participate in the Maine Professionals Health Program and continue in her aftercare treatment program to such an extent and for as long as her treatment providers recommend. She will arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her treatment providers and such reports shall continue until her probation is terminated. If her treatment is terminated during probation, she shall notify the Board and provide written documentation.
 - d. Robin Hill Buzzell will notify the Board in writing within five business days of any change in her nursing employment and/or an educational program in the field of nursing. Notice under this section shall include the place and position of employment or the nursing educational program. If during the period of probation, Ms. Buzzell's employment as a nurse or her educational program in the field of nursing terminates, she shall notify the Board in writing within five business days after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, with a full explanation of the circumstances.
 - e. Robin Hill Buzzell will notify any and all of her nursing employers and faculty involved in any clinical studies of the terms of this Agreement and provide them with a copy of it.
 - f. Robin Hill Buzzell will arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her nursing employer and/or clinical faculty regarding her general nursing practice. Nursing employment will be restricted during the period of probation to structured settings with on-site supervision by another registered professional nurse. Structured settings shall not include assignments from temporary employment agencies, home health, school nursing, work as a travel nurse or within the correctional system.

- g. Robin Hill Buzzell agrees and understands that her license will remain on probationary status and subject to the terms of this Agreement beyond the five-year probationary period until and unless the Board, at her written request, votes to terminate her probation. When considering whether to terminate the probation, the Board will consider the extent to which she has complied with the provisions of this Agreement.
- 9. Robin Hill Buzzell agrees and understands that the Board and the Office of the Attorney General shall have access to any and all medical records and all otherwise confidential or medically privileged information pertaining only to her evaluation for a substance abuse problem and any recommended treatment which the Board deems necessary to evaluate her compliance with the Agreement. Ms. Buzzell shall provide such information, authorize the release of such records and information, and authorize any such discussions and communications with any and all persons involved in her evaluation, counseling and employment as may be requested by the Board.
- 10. If after notice and a hearing, the Board finds that the Licensee has failed to meet the conditions of probation, the Board may take any disciplinary action which it deems appropriate and impose any of the sanctions including, but not limited to, that found in Title 10 M.R.S. § 8003 and Title 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A.
- 11. The State of Maine is a "Party state" that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact ("Compact"), which is set out in Chapter 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. The State of Maine is Ms. Buzzell's "Home state" of licensure and primary state of residence, which means she has declared the State of Maine as her fixed permanent and principle home for legal purposes; her domicile. Other Party states in the Compact are referred to as "Remote states," which means Party states other than the Home state that have adopted the Compact. Ms. Buzzell understands and agrees that this Agreement is applicable to her multi-state licensure privilege, if any, to practice nursing in Compact states.
 - IT IS FURTHER AGREED that while Ms. Buzzell's license is subject to this Agreement, she may not work outside the State of Maine pursuant to a multi-state licensure privilege without the written permission of the Maine State Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the Party state(s) in which she wishes to work.
- 12. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 408.
- 13. Robin Hill Buzzell understands that she does not have to execute this Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Agreement.
- Robin Hill Buzzell affirms that she executes this Agreement of her own free will.
- 15. Modification of this Agreement must in writing and signed by all Parties.
- 16. This Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
- 17. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.
- I, ROBIN HILL BUZZELL, RN, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THE EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON MY REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE LICENSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, KNOWINGLY, AND INTELLIGENTLY AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

DATED: 2/27/12

CALL BUZZELL, RN

DATED: 2/28/12

MARIA A. WOODMAN, ESQ.
ATTORNEY FOR ROBIN HILL BUZZELL, RN

FOR THE MAINE STATE

DATED: 2/29/12

MYRA A BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.

OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE

BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 2/29/12

JOHN HYRICHARDS
Assistant Attorney General

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