

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

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

| IN RE: SHEILA M. HARLOW |) | CONSENT AGREEMENT |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| of Portland, Maine |) | FOR VOLUNTARY |
| License # R048703 |) | SURRENDER OF LICENSE |

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Sheila M. Harlow's license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A)(C) and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(B), (5)(D). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Sheila M. Harlow ("Licensee"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The Board met with Ms. Harlow in an Informal Conference on August 17, 2006. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of information provided to the Board by Maine Medical Center ("MMC") pursuant to 24 M.R.S.A. § 2506. The information from MMC is contained in correspondence dated April 14, 2006 and April 24, 2006, which are attached as Exhibit 1. In addition, Ms. Harlow's response to the information from MMC is contained in correspondence dated May 31, 2006, which is attached as Exhibit 2.

FACTS

- 1. Sheila M. Harlow has been a registered professional nurse licensed to practice in Maine since 2003.
- 2. Sheila M. Harlow admitted that she diverted scheduled medications (Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen 5/500 TAB) from MMC beginning in January 2006 to April 2006. Ms. Harlow diverted these medications from patients when she assessed that the patients did not need the medications, however, she documented that the medications were administered to the patients.
- 3. There is no documented patient harm.
- 4. Sheila M. Harlow has not practiced as a registered professional nurse since April 22, 2006. She completed the Intensive Outpatient Therapy program at Mercy Recovery Center in Westbrook, Maine. She is currently receiving treatment for depression and substance abuse and attends a woman's AA group on a weekly basis. Ms. Harlow has been substance free since May 2006.
- 5. MMC is supportive of Ms. Harlow's return to work at their facility.
- 6. Sheila M. Harlow has offered to surrender her registered professional nurse license.



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AGREEMENT

- 7. The Maine State Board of Nursing will accept Sheila M. Harlow's offer to voluntarily surrender her registered professional nurse license.
- 8. Sheila M. Harlow understands that based upon the above-stated facts this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The grounds for discipline for violations under 32 M.R.S.A.§ 2105-A(2)(A), 2(B), (2)(F), (2)(H) and Chapter 4, sections 1(A)(1), 1(A)(2), 1(A)(6), 1(A)(8) and Chapter 4, sections 3(F), 3(K), 3(P) and 3(Q) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing.
- 9. Sheila M. Harlow agrees and understands she is surrendering her license for a period of one year. The period of surrender is retroactive to May 1, 2006. However, her license will remain on surrender status and subject to the terms of this Consent Agreement indefinitely until and unless the Board, at Ms. Harlow's written request, votes to reinstate Ms. Harlow's license. Ms. Harlow agrees and understands that if the Board reinstates her license, it will be for a probationary period, subject to the discretion of the Board.
 - 10. Sheila M. Harlow agrees that she will abstain completely from the use of alcohol or drugs, with the exception of substances used in accordance with a valid prescription from a physician who is aware of Ms. Harlow's substance abuse history.
 - 11. Sheila M. Harlow agrees that she will continue in her aftercare treatment program to such an extent and for as long as her treatment providers recommend.
 - 12. Sheila M. Harlow understands that this document is a Consent Agreement that affects her rights to practice registered professional nursing in Maine. Ms. Harlow understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering the Consent Agreement.
 - 13. Sheila M. Harlow shall not work or volunteer, in any capacity, for a health care provider as defined by Title 24 M.R.S.A. § 2502 (2) or in any position holding herself out as a registered professional nurse or with the designation, R.N., including, in a veterinarian's office, while her nursing license is surrendered. In addition, Ms. Harlow is not to seek employment where the handling or dispensing of drugs is part of the job responsibility.
 - 14. Modification of this Consent Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.

Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender of License Sheila M. Harlow Page 3

- 15. This Consent Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
- 16. Sheila M. Harlow affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
- 17. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, SHEILA M. HARLOW, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

| DATED: 10/3/06 | Shila M. Harlow SHEILA M. HARLOW |
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| DATED: 10 (6/06 | Q C 5 |
| | JAMES E. FORTIN, ESQ. Attorney for Sheila M. Harlow |

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 10/12/06

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

Executive Director

DATED: 10/16/06

IOHN R RICHARDS

Assistant Attorney General

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL