



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

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
 GOVERNOR

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

**IN RE: BONNIE S. HOWES, R.N.**

a/k/a Bonnie S. Heath	)	<b>CONSENT AGREEMENT</b>
a/k/a Bonnie S. Henry	)	<b>FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER</b>
of Mechanic Falls, Maine	)	<b>OF LICENSE</b>
License #R041839 & #P011441		

**INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Consent Agreement (“Agreement”) regarding Bonnie S. Howes’s license to practice registered professional and licensed practical nursing in the State of Maine. The parties to this Agreement are Bonnie S. Howes (“Ms. Howes” or “Licensee”), Maine State Board of Nursing (“Board”) and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine; they enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (1-A) (C), 10 M.R.S.A. §§ 8003 (A-1) (4), 8003 (5) (B) and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003 (5) (D). The Board met with the Licensee in an informal conference on October 7, 2009 to discuss further the information submitted by Community Partners, Inc. through letter dated July 21, 2009 and Ms. Howes’s response of August 27, 2009.

**FACTS**

1. Bonnie S. Howes has been a registered professional nurse licensed to practice in Maine since November 1997. She previously held a Maine licensed practical nurse license from August 1996 to April 1998.
2. Bonnie S. Howes entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board on October 21, 2008 for a probationary license with conditions for a term of three years. Conditions 8(f) and 8(g) of the Agreement require Ms. Howes to *notify any and all of her nursing employers and faculty involved in any clinical studies of the terms of this Consent Agreement and provide them with a copy of it and 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.*

Ms. Howes admits that she failed to comply with these probationary conditions and that she forged the signatures on quarterly reports from her nursing supervisor, Director of Nursing Doris Babbidge, whose name she misspelled by leaving out the “d” in the presumed signature.



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### AGREEMENT

3. In lieu of a hearing before the Board, Bonnie S. Howes offered to voluntarily surrender her registered professional nurse license; the Maine State Board of Nursing will accept her offer.
4. Bonnie S. Howes understands that based upon the above-stated facts, this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice as a registered professional nurse. The grounds for discipline for violations are under 32 M.R.S. § 2105-A (2) (A), (2) (F), (2) (H) and Chapter 4, sections 1(A) (1), 1(A) (6), 1(A) (8) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Specifically, the violations are:
  - a. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (A). The practice of fraud and deceit in connection with service rendered within the scope of the license issued to Ms. Howes by forging the required quarterly reports. (See also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.1.)
  - b. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (F). Unprofessional Conduct. Ms. Howes 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 also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)
  - c. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (H). A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the Board. (See also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)
5. Bonnie S. Howes understands and agrees that her license will remain on surrender status and subject to the terms of this Agreement indefinitely until and unless the Board, at her written request, votes to reinstate her license. Ms. Howes agrees and understands that if the Board reinstates her license, it will be for a probationary period.
6. 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. Howes’s “home state” of licensure and primary state of residence, which means that 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. Howes understands this Agreement is subject to the Compact.
7. Ms. Howes understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Agreement.
8. Bonnie S. Howes 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. Howes is not to seek employment where the handling or dispensing of drugs is part of the job responsibility.

9. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S.A. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 408.
10. Modification of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.
11. This Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
12. Bonnie S. Howes affirms that she executes this Agreement of her own free will.
13. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

**I, BONNIE S. HOWES, R.N., 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: 12/31/09

Bonnie S. Howes, R.N.  
BONNIE S. HOWES, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE  
BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: Jan 4, 2010

Myra Broadway  
MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.  
Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: 1/5/10

John H. Richards  
JOHN H. RICHARDS  
Assistant Attorney General