IN RE: TAMMY L. PAIGE, R.N.)		
of Auburn, Maine)	CONSENT	AGREEMENT
License #R044352)	FOR WAR	NING
			AND TRANSPER

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INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Tammy L. Paige's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(A-1)(1), § 8003(5)(B) and 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A)(A). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Tammy L. Paige ("Licensee"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. An informal conference was held on May 25, 2004. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of information submitted by the State of Maine, Bureau of Medical Services, Division of Licensing & Certification's investigation of Freeport Nursing and Rehabilitation Center – Complaint No. 02-CU-741 dated August 16, 2002.

FACTS

- 1. Tammy L. Paige has been a registered professional nurse licensed by the Board to practice in Maine since 1999.
- 2. Tammy L. Paige was the assistant director of nursing on July 3, 2002, assuming the responsibilities as the acting director of nursing until July 14, 2002.
- 3. A resident was admitted to the skilled unit at Freeport Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on July 3, 2002, without physician's orders. On July 3, 2002 it was documented that the resident had a decubitus ulcer on the coccyx/sacrum area. Between July 3 and July 10, 2002, nursing documentation staged the decubitus ulcer as a level II or III. During this period the nursing notes gave the following varied descriptions of the wounds condition: "2 inch necrotic area/coccyx," "blackened and painful to touch" and the wound exhibiting "green drainage." This resident was first seen by a geriatric nurse practitioner on July 11, 2002, who failed to adequately implement a treatment plan for the decubitus ulcer. The condition of the decubitus ulcer continued to progress to a more serious stage and the resident was discharged from Freeport Nursing on July 14, 2002, with a stage IV decubitus ulcer that later required multiple surgeries to correct.
- 4. Ms. Paige states that she never saw the resident during the resident's stay at Freeport Nursing and was not aware of the resident's medical needs. In the absence of the regular director of nursing ("DON"), Ms. Paige assumed the responsibilities as the DON from July 3, 2002, to July 14, 2002. As the acting DON she limited her responsibilities to coordinating the clinical care of the residences at Freeport Nursing and failed to recognize that the additional responsibilities included supervision of direct patient care.

- 5. The June 25, 2003 Notice of Complaint cited possible violations of 32 M.R.S.A 2105-A(2)(E), (2)(F) and (2)(H).
- 6. The Board finds that Ms. Paige did not violate 32 M.R.S.A. 2105-A(2)(E), regarding incompetence in the practice of nursing.

AGREEMENT

- 7. Tammy L. Paige agrees and understands that her conduct in the above stated facts constitutes grounds for discipline under Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(F), (2)(H) and Chapter 4.1.A.6., Chapter 4.3.B. and 4.3.F. Tammy L. Paige is hereby **WARNED** for unprofessional conduct and for assuming duties and responsibilities within the practice of nursing without adequate preparation and failing to take appropriate action or follow policies and procedures in a practice situation designed to safeguard the patient.
- 8. The Board, the Office of the Attorney General, and Ms Paige enter this agreement without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law herein and without this Consent Agreement constituting any evidence against or admission by any party with respect to any issue. In particular, the parties agree that this Agreement will not be admissible in any civil proceeding for any purpose, including without limitation, on the issue of the Licensee's liability to any patient while employed at the Freeport Nursing and is not to be construed or offered as any admission or evidence of negligence by the Ms. Paige in any such proceeding.
- 9. Tammy L. Paige understands that this Consent Agreement imposes discipline in the form of a warning regarding her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. Ms. Paige understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into this Consent Agreement.
- 10. Tammy L. Paige affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
- 11. Modification of this Consent Agreement must be in writing and signed by all the parties.
- 12. This Consent Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee.
- 13. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, TAMMY L. PAIGE, R.N., 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: | - | - | - |

TAMMY L. PAIGE, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 12/3/04

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

Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED.

JOHN H. RICHARDS

Assistant Attorney General