

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

BEFORE THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE R043595 ISSUED TO:))
RENEE M. PFINGST) ORDER TERMINATING) PROBATION
To practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine	}
·	

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2008, License #R043595 issued to Renee M. Pfingst was placed on "probation" pursuant to 32 M.R.S. Section 2105-A (1-A); and

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2011, the Board of Nursing duly considered all evidence presented to it concerning Renee M. Pfingst's compliance with the conditions of said probation; and

WHEREAS, the Board found that Renee M. Pfingst has completed all of the Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered that the Order of Probation executed on August 18, 2008 is hereby terminated.

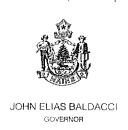
DATED this 30th day of November, 2011.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Myra A. Broadway, J.D., M.S., R.N.

Executive Director





PHONE: (207) 287-1133

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

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

IN RE: RENEE M. PFINGST, R.N.)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
(Formerly Renee M. Lizotte))	FOR REPRIMAND AND
of Winslow, Maine)	LICENSE PROBATION
License #R043595)	

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Renee M. Pfingst's license as a registered professional nurse in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (1-A) (B) and § 8003(5) (B). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Renee M. Pfingst ("Licensee" or "Ms. Pfingst"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The Board met with the Licensee in an informal conference on April 15, 2008 and reached this Agreement on the basis of a Notice of Complaint or Provider Report from the Board dated July 3, 2007 with supporting documentation from Inland Hospital, located in Waterville, Maine, dated February 7, 2007, and Ms. Pfingst's response received July 25, 2007.

FACTS

- 1. Renee M. Pfingst has been a registered professional nurse licensed in Maine since June 1999.
- 2. Renee M. Pfingst was terminated from Inland Hospital on January 17, 2007 because of poor work performance consisting of substandard documentation regarding patient vital signs, pain assessments for medication administration, and patient transfer forms. In addition, Ms. Pfingst was counseled for sleeping while on duty and poor communication.
- 3. On January 4, 2007, Ms. Pfingst acknowledges that she committed a medication error by administering 360mg of Ketamine IM to a three-year-old patient instead of the prescribed dose of 36mg. The patient was required to be bagged and monitored in the Emergency Department until stabilized [Exhibit A].

AGREEMENT

4. Renee M. Pfingst 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., 4.1.A.8. and 4.3.F. of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Renee M. Pfingst is hereby **REPRIMANDED** for unprofessional conduct because she failed to follow policies and procedures in a



practice situation designed to safeguard the patient. Specifically, the violations are:

- a. "F. Unprofessional Conduct. A licensee is considered to have engaged in unprofessional conduct if the licensee violates a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which the licensee is licensed." See also Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.
- b. "H. A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the board." <u>See also Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.</u>
- c. "Unprofessional Conduct" as defined by the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing in Chapter 4, Section 3 describes "Nursing Behavior which fails to conform to legal standards of the nursing profession, and which could reflect adversely on the health and welfare of the public shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
 - F. Failing to take appropriate action or to follow policies and procedures in the practice situation designed to safeguard the patient."
- 5. Renee M. Pfingst's license as a registered professional nurse in the State of Maine is placed on a probationary status with conditions. The period of probation will be for three (3) years, to be effective only while she is employed in nursing practice and/or enrolled in a nursing education program. For purposes of this Agreement, nursing employment is any employment during which Ms. Pfingst performs nursing services. Ms. Pfingst's probationary license will be subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Renee M. Pfingst will immediately notify the Board in writing should she change her nursing employment and/or return to an educational program in the field of nursing. Notice under this section shall include the place and position of employment or the educational program and any subsequent changes in employment or educational programs.
 - b. Renee M. Pfingst will 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.
 - c. Renee M. Pfingst will arrange for and ensure submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her nursing employer and/or clinical faculty regarding her general nursing practice. If during the period of probation, Ms. Pfingst's employment as a nurse or her educational program in the field of nursing terminates, she shall notify the Board of this change to ensure that she remains in compliance with her employment and/or educational quarterly reports.

- d. Renee M. Pfingst will complete a class approved by the Executive Director of the Board which addresses the subject area of documentation and medication administration, as well as IV medication administration and a working knowledge of dosage calculation.
- 6. Renee M. Pfingst agrees and understands that her license will remain on probationary status and subject to the terms of this Agreement beyond the three-year probationary period until and unless the Board, at Ms. Pfingst's written request, votes to terminate her probation. When considering whether to terminate the probation, the Board will consider the extent to which Ms. Pfingst has complied with the provisions of this Agreement and her professional conduct when providing services to residents/patients.
- 7. 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. Pfingst'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 that are in the Compact are referred to as "remote states," which means party states other than the home state that have adopted the Compact. Ms. Pfingst understands that this document is a Consent Agreement subject to the Compact. Ms. Pfingst agrees that during the pendency of this Consent Agreement, her nursing practice may be limited to the State of Maine as it pertains to the Compact. If she wishes to practice in any other party state within the Compact, she shall arrange to have the party state in which she intends to practice provide the Board with written authorization that she has been approved to practice in that state.
- 8. This Consent 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.
- 9. Renee M. Pfingst understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Consent Agreement.
- 10. Renee M. Pfingst 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.

Renee M. Pfingst – Consent Agreement for Reprimand and License Probation Page 4 of 4 $\,$

I, RENEE M. PFINGST, R.N., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FORE-GOING 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: <u>8/13/0</u>8

RENEE M. PFINGST, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: 8/15/08

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