

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:

ROBERT F. SKEFFINGTON LICENSE: RN28372

ORDER OF REVOCATION

The Maine State Board of Nursing ("the Board") issues this Order of Revocation under the authority of 5 M.R.S. §10004(1), 5 M.R.S. §§5301(2), 5302, and 32 M.R.S. §2105-A(2)(G), revoking the professional nursing license of Robert Skeffington ("Licensee"). The Board met on December 5, 2013, and following deliberations on this matter, approved the adoption of this **ORDER OF REVOCATION** by a vote of 8 for and 0 against.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- 1. Pursuant to 5 M.R.S. §10004(1), an agency may revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew any license without holding a hearing in conformity with subchapters IV or VI of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, if the decision to take that action rests solely upon a finding or conviction in court of any violation which by statute is expressly made grounds for revocation.
- 2. Pursuant to 5 M.R.S. §5302(1), a licensing agency may refuse to grant or renew, or may suspend, revoke or take other disciplinary action against any occupational license on the basis of criminal history record information relating to convictions denominated in 5 M.R.S. §5301(2), but only if the licensing agency determines that the licensee so convicted has not been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust, for which the licensee has the burden of proving that there exists sufficient rehabilitation to warrant the public trust.
- 3. Pursuant to 5 M.R.S. §5301(2) the following types of convictions are denominated as bases for a licensing agency to revoke a license:
 - a. Convictions that involve dishonesty or false statement;
 - b. Convictions that relate directly to the licensed occupation;
 - c. Convictions for which incarceration for one year or more may be imposed; and
 - d. Convictions that involve sexual misconduct by a licensee of the Board.
- 4. Pursuant to 32 M.R.S. §2105-A (2), the Board may suspend or revoke a license pursuant to 5 M.R.S. §10004, and may also refuse to issue, modify, restrict, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a license, among other grounds, for conviction of a crime that involves dishonesty or false statement, or 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.

FINDINGS

5. Licensee was first licensed by the Board to practice as a registered professional nurse in Maine on April 30, 1985. He entered into a Consent Agreement for Interim Suspension on November 13, 2012 pending charges regarding inappropriate sexual contact with a minor.



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- 6. On or about November 7, 2013, Licensee pled guilty to GROSS SEXUAL ASSAULT (a Class A crime) and to UNLAWFUL SEXUAL TOUCHING (a Class B crime).
- 7. Licensee was sentenced to 25 years in prison for the GROSS SEXUAL ASSAULT conviction and three years and nine months for the UNLAWFUL SEXUAL TOUCHING conviction.
- 8. Both the convictions of GROSS SEXUAL ASSAULT and UNLAWFUL SEXUAL TOUCHING are convictions that involve sexual misconduct by the Licensee.

CONCLUSIONS

- 9. Robert Skeffington's conviction for GROSS SEXUAL ASSAULT and UNLAWFUL SEXUAL TOUCHING are convictions that: a) involve sexual misconduct by the Licensee; b) relate directly to the practice of nursing; and c) involve a crime for which incarceration for one year or more may be imposed. For each of these reasons, the conviction constitutes grounds for the revocation of Robert Skeffington's license.
- 10. Because Robert Skeffington is currently incarcerated and has not submitted any evidence of effective treatment for his child molestation propensities, the Board determines that, at this time, Robert Skeffington has not been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust and cannot meet his burden of proving otherwise.

ORDER

Based on the statutory authority, findings, and conclusions articulated above, the Board hereby **REVOKES** the nursing license of Robert Skeffington based on his convictions for GROSS SEXUAL ASSAULT and UNLAWFUL SEXUAL TOUCHING.

Dated: December 31, 2013

Margaret Hourigan, RN, EdD

Chairperson

Maine State Board of Nursing

APPEAL RIGHTS

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 M.R.S. §8003(5) and 5 M.R.S. §§11002(3), any party that appeals this Order of Revocation must file a Petition for de novo judicial review in District Court within 30 days of receipt of this Order. The petition shall specify the person seeking review, the manner in which he or she is aggrieved and the final agency action which is to be reviewed. It shall also contain a concise statement as to the nature of the action or inaction to be reviewed, the grounds upon which relief is sought, and a demand for relief. Copies of the Petition for Review shall be served by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, upon the Maine State Board of Nursing, all parties to the agency proceedings, and the Attorney General.