IN THE MATTER OF \* BEFORE THE MARYLAND

License No: LP43676 \*

YVETTE OKALA TURNER

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**BOARD OF NURSING** 

# ORDER OF TERMINATION OF PROBATION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE

On March 25, 2014, the Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") executed an "Consent Order of Probation" hereinafter "Probation Order"), which placed the license of Yvette Okala Turner, ("the Licensee"), to practice as a licensed practical nurse in the State of Maryland, license number LP43676, on probation for a minimum of three (3) years, subject to certain probationary terms and conditions.<sup>2</sup> The Board, in its discretion, will terminate the probation imposed by the Probation Order, therefore, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that the probation ordered upon the Licensee by the Probation Order dated March 25, 2015, is hereby **TERMINATED** and the Probation Order is of no further force and effect; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order is a **PUBLIC RECORD** under Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.* (2019)

January 26, 2023

Date

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC

The Executive Director's Signature

RAppears on the Original Document

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Maryland Board of Nursing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Probation Order is incorporated by reference into this Order and is attached to this Order as Exhibit A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Licensee's LPN license is currently non-renewed, having expired on May 28, 2015.

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
	*	
YVETTE TURNER	*	MARYLAND BOARD
42696	*	
43676 License Number LP4 <del>3576</del>	*	OF NURSING
***********************************		

## **CONSENT ORDER OF PROBATION**

Based upon certain information having come to the attention of the Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") regarding the nursing practice of Yvette Turner (the "Respondent"), the Board directed that an investigation of the Respondent's practice be conducted. Based on that investigation, on January 27, 2014, the Respondent attended a settlement conference with Board representatives in an effort to reach resolution of the case prior to the issuance of formal charges. The Respondent and the Board subsequently agreed to the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board finds that:

- 1. On or about August 7, 2013, the Board received a complaint from a facility in Baltimore, Maryland (the "Facility") regarding the Respondent's practice as a licensed practical nurse ("LPN") in the State of Maryland.
- 2. According to the complaint, on July 24, 2013, the Respondent left a bottle of methadone on top of a medication cart while attending to another task. When the Respondent returned to the medication cart, the methadone was missing. The Respondent self-reported to the Facility's Director of Nursing, and the Director of Nursing conducted an investigation.
  - 3. The Respondent subsequently resigned her position at the Facility.

- 4. In both her written response to the Board and her interview with Board staff under oath, the Respondent acknowledged that she left the methadone unsecured on the medication cart, stating that she was interrupted by other Facility staff.
- 5. Regardless that the Respondent was reacting to multiple demands in a short period of time, the Respondent, as a nurse, should have known to secure a medication such as methadone. Thus, the Board considers the Respondent's actions on July 24, 2013 to be inconsistent with the generally accepted standards in the practice of pratical nursing and, accordingly, the Board finds that the Respondent has violated Md. Code Ann, Health Occ. § 8-316(a)(8).
- 6. The Board finds that the Respondent's misconduct falls within category F(1) of the Board's sanctioning guidelines. *See* COMAR 10.27.26.07.F(1). The range of potential sanctions under category F(1) is reprimand to probation for five years. *Id.* The applicable range of potential monetary penalties is \$1,000 to \$3,000. *Id.*

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent violated Md. Code. Ann., Health Occ. § 8-316(a) as follows:

(8) Does an act that is inconsistent with generally accepted professional standards in the practice of registered nursing or licensed practical nursing.

#### **ORDER**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that, beginning on the effective date of this Order, the license of the Respondent to practice as a practical nurse in the State of Maryland is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **THREE** (3) **YEARS** subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The Respondent's status as a practical nurse will be listed in the Board's computer records and website as being on "**Probation**";
- 2. The Respondent may seek and or continue employment as a practical nurse but shall obtain Board approval prior to accepting any nursing positions;
- 3. The Respondent shall immediately notify all employers of the probationary status of the Respondent's license and arrange for all employers to submit, in writing, confirmation that they have reviewed this Order;
- 4. The Respondent shall arrange for the Respondent's supervisor at the Respondent's place of employment to submit <u>written quarterly Work-Site reports</u> to the Board evaluating the Respondent's nursing practice. If the Respondent's employment terminates at any of the Respondent's place(s) of employment prior to the due date of a quarterly report, then a final workplace report is due on the last day of employment. It is the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that such reports are submitted to the Board and to notify the Respondent's supervisor when these reports are due. An unsatisfactory report will be considered a violation of probation and this Order;
- 5. The Respondent shall notify the Board in writing of any nursing position from which she is terminated by her employer and/or of any nursing position from which she voluntarily resigns within **THREE** (3) **BUSINESS DAYS** of the date of termination and resignation. The Respondent shall include the reasons for the termination or resignation in any written notification to the Board. Failure to provide written notification to the Board of any

termination or resignation as required by this paragraph shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order;

- 6. The Respondent shall submit to the Board <u>written quarterly self reports</u> describing the Respondent's progress. Failure to provide written self reports on time shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order;
- 7. ORDERED that the Respondent shall satisfactorily complete course approved in advance by the Board in 1) ETHICS OF NURSING; 2) PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY; and 3) DOCUMENTATION and shall provide written proof of successful completion of this course to the Board within THREE (3) MONTHS of the effective date of this Order. Failure to provide written proof of successful completion of these courses shall constitute a violation of probation and this Order;
- 8. At any time during the probationary period, the Board may, in its discretion, order the Respondent to submit to an appropriate examination by a health care provider designated by the Board. The Respondent shall sign all necessary consent forms required to authorize disclosure of the examiner's written report to the Board, and the Board will pay the costs of this examination;
- 9. The Respondent shall submit to an in-person, face-to-face meeting with Board staff if requested to do so throughout the entire duration of the probationary period;
- 10. In the event the Respondent moves permanently or temporarily, either within or outside the State of Maryland, the Respondent shall notify the Board of the Respondent's new address and phone number within three days of the move;

- 11. The Respondent shall disclose a copy of this Order to the nursing board of any other state where the Respondent is employed and shall obtain and submit to this Board written acknowledgement of that disclosure;
- 12. The Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws. If the Respondent is convicted of, or pleads guilty to, any crimes, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside, the Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, of any conviction(s) or guilty plea(s) within **TEN** (10) **DAYS** of the conviction or guilty plea. Failure to report a conviction or guilty plea to the Board in writing within **TEN** (10) **DAYS** is a violation of probation and this Order;
- 13. The Respondent shall have contacted, and scheduled an appointment with, the Board of Nursing's Discipline/Compliance unit no later than **THIRTY** (30) **DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDER**, for the purpose of beginning compliance with the terms and conditions of probation. Failure to do so will constitute a violation of probation and of this Order;
- 14. In the event the Board grants to the Respondent any other type of certificate or license that the Board is authorized to grant, that certificate or license shall be subject to all of the same terms and conditions imposed in this Consent Order, including all of the same probationary conditions listed in the preceding paragraphs 1-13; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall be responsible for paying all costs required to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order shall be applicable to the Respondent's multi-state privilege to

practice practical nursing and, for the duration of this Order, the Respondent may not work outside the State of Maryland pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without written permission of the Maryland Board of Nursing and the nursing board in the party state where the Respondent wishes to work; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this probation and/or this Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing before the Board, if there is a genuine dispute as to the material fact(s), or an opportunity for a show cause hearing before the Board, may impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board may have imposed in this case under H.O. § 8-316 including a reprimand, additional probation, stayed or active suspension, revocation, and/or monetary fine, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the evidence; and it is further

ORDERED that no earlier than THREE (3) YEARS after the effective date of this Order, the Board will consider a petition for termination of the Respondent's probationary status, provided that the Respondent has been compliant with the probationary terms of this Order and safely employed as a practical nurse for at least NINE (9) MONTHS immediately preceding submission of a petition for termination of probation; and it is further

**ORDERED** that there shall be no early termination of the **THREE** (3) **YEAR** probationary period. The Board will not consider any requests from the Respondent to terminate probation any earlier than three (3) years from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this Order is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't \$ 10-617(h) (2009 Repl. Vol.).

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Nancy Adams, MBA, RN
The President's Signature Appears on
the Original Document

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**CONSENT** 

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby admit the truth of the Findings of Fact, and accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

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YVETTE TURNER, LP43576

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