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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

IN RE:

LYNDA J. HINDS, L.P.N., License number 015970
c/o Alice Legge, R.N.
277 Fairwood Road
Bethany, Connecticut 06525

The Board of Examiners for Nursing was presented by the Department of Health Services with a Notice of Hearing and Complaint dated October 19, 1981.

The Statement of Charges alleged violations of certain provisions of Chapter 378, Connecticut General Statutes. The Notice of Hearing provided that the hearing would take place on November 10, 1981 at 2:00 p.m. in the Department of Health Services, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut. The hearing was subsequently held on November 10, 1981 and December 1, 1981 in the Department of Health Services.

Each member of the Board of Examiners for Nursing involved in this decision attests that he/she has reviewed the record, and that this decision is based entirely on the record.

FACT

1. Lynda J. Hinds, L.P.N., the respondent, was at all pertinent times licensed to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse in Connecticut, with registration number E-15970.

2. Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-182(c), the respondent was provided a full opportunity prior to the institution of agency action to show compliance with all the terms for the retention of her license.

3. The respondent (a) wilfully and unlawfully forged the name of M. Shimelman, M.D. on at least five Hospital of St. Raphael prescription blanks prescribing Demerol 50 m.g. tablets for her own use, and (b) wilfully and unlawfully abused the use of drugs by administering Demerol to herself.

4. The activities referenced in paragraph 3, supra, were discovered by drug control agent John Whalen during an investigation which took place during June, 1981.

DISCUSSION

FIRST COUNT

5. The First Count alleges that the respondent violated the following provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 by wilfully and unlawfully forging the name of M. Shimelman, M.D. on at least five Hospital of St. Raphael prescription blanks prescribing Demerol 50 m.g. tablets for her own use:

... (b) (2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions.

... (b) (6) fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities...

The inescapable conclusion to draw from the facts found by the Board is that the respondent has violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 as specified in the First Count.

SECOND COUNT

6. The Second Count alleges that the respondent violated the following provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 by wilfully and unlawfully abusing the use of drugs by administering Demerol to herself:

... (b) (2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions.

... (b) (5) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals...

The inescapable conclusion to draw from the facts found by the Board is that the respondent has violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99 as specified in the Second Count.

ORDER

7. It is the unanimous decision of the Board of Examiners for Nursing that:

(a). The license of the respondent be suspended for a minimum period of ~~eighteen~~ months determined as follows:

i. as to the First Count, suspension for a period of eighteen months, commencing February 15th , 1982.

ii. as to the Second Count, suspension for a period of eighteen months, which period is to run concurrently with that specified as to the First Count.

(b). At the end of the eighteen month period specified in (a), the respondent may apply for reinstatement after submitting supporting documentation from her psychiatrist and her medical doctor.

8. The respondent, Lynda J. Hinds, is hereby directed to surrender her license and current registration to the Board of Examiners for Nursing at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06115, by February 15, 1982.

9. The Board of Examiners for Nursing herewith advise the Department of Health Services of the State of Connecticut of this decision and directs that the certificate of registration license of Lynda J. Hinds, L.P.N. be suspended in accordance herewith.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 26th day of January, 1982.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Bette Jane M. Murphy, R.N.
BETTE JANE M. MURPHY, R.N.
Chairman