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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

1983 0927 011 026

IN RE:

Janice Gura
P.O. Box 492
Pompano Beach, Florida 33061

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The Board of Examiners for Nursing was presented by the Department of Health Services with a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges dated February 21, 1984.

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 March 13, 1984 in the State Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

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. Janice Gura, respondent, was at all pertinent times licensed to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse in Connecticut, with registration number 019108.

2. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 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 his/her license.

3. The respondent: a) On or about April 30, May 1, April 25, April 29, April 27, 1983 administered the controlled substance Meperidine without a physician's order and failed to properly document these administrations; b) On or about April 25, 1983 signed out the controlled substance Meperidine as being administered at a time when the patient was not available to be medicated and did not properly chart the medications; c) On or about April 14 and April 29, 1983 administered the controlled substance Meperidine and did not properly document these administrations; d) On or about April 29, 1983 administered the controlled substance Meperidine contrary to physician's order and did not obtain co-signatures of the discarded portions; e) On or about April 8 and May 1, 1983 discarded the unused portions of the controlled substance Hydromorphone and did not obtain co-signatures; f) From April 1983 and continuing until July, 1983 abused or used to excess drugs and/or alcohol.

4. The activities referenced in paragraph three (3) were discovered by Drug Control Agent Herbert C. Strickland, Jr., during investigations conducted during July and August 1983.

DISCUSSION

5. Counts One, Two, Three, Four, Six, Seven, and Nine allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by administering the controlled substance Meperidine without a physician's order and failing to properly document this administration.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in Counts One, Two, Three, Four, Six, Seven, and Nine.

6. The Fifth Count alleges that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by signing out the controlled substance Meperidine as being administered at a time when the patient was not available to be medicated and did not properly chart the medications.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Fifth Count.

7. The Eighth and Tenth Counts allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by administering the controlled substance Meperidine to a patient without properly documenting administration.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Eighth and Tenth Counts.

8. The Eleventh and Twelfth Counts allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by administering the controlled substance Meperidine contrary to physician's order and did not obtain co-signatures of the discarded portions.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Eleventh and Twelfth Counts.

9. The Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Counts allege that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by discarding the unused portions of a controlled substance Hydromorphone and did not obtain co-signatures.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Thirteen, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Counts.

10. The Sixteenth Count alleges that the respondent violated provisions of Section 20-99(b) by failing to conform to accepted standards of nursing by abusing or using to excess drugs and/or alcohol.

The Board finds from the facts that the respondent has violated Section 20-99(b) as specified in the Sixteenth Count.

ORDER

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

- a. The license of the respondent be suspended for a minimum effective period of three (3) years determined as follows:
 - i. As to Counts One, Two, Three, Four, Six, Seven, Nine, Eleven, and Twelve, suspension for a period of one (1) year for each count. Suspensions are to run concurrently for a total effective suspension of one (1) year.
 - ii. As to Counts Five, Eight, Ten, Thirteen, Fourteen and Fifteen, suspension for a period of one (1) year for each count, suspensions to run concurrently for a total effective suspension of one (1) year.
 - iii. As to Count Sixteen, suspension for a period of one (1) year.
 - iv. The three (3) one (1) year suspensions are to run consecutively for a total effective suspension of three (3) years.
- b. At the end of the three (3) years specified in (a) the respondent may apply for reinstatement after submitting supportive current documentation from a licensed therapist that she has achieved a drug free status and resolved the problems which led to the suspension. The documentation shall include laboratory evaluation of her drug free status.

12. The respondent, Janice Gura, is hereby directed to surrender her license and current registration to the Board of Examiners for Nursing at

150 Washington Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 upon receipt of this document.

13. The Board of Examiners for Nursing herewith advises the Department of Health Services of the State of Connecticut of this decision.

Dated at *Hartford*, Connecticut, this *18th* day of *September*, 19*84*

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: *Bette Jane M. Murphy RN*
Bette Jane M. Murphy, R.N., Chairman