

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

Anne Gallitto
353 Kelsey Street
Middletown, CT 06457

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

2000 0217 012 001

Procedural Background

Anne Gallitto (hereinafter "respondent") was issued Registered Nurse license number R27282 on April 30, 1995, and was issued Advanced Practice Registered Nurse license number 000181 on March 12, 1991.

Pursuant to Memorandum of Decision dated April 3, 1996, the Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") ordered that respondent's Registered Nurse license be placed on probation for a period of four (4) years commencing April 15, 1996, and that respondent's Advanced Practice Registered Nurse license be revoked.

In a letter dated January 11, 2000, respondent petitioned the Board requesting reinstatement of her Advanced Practice Registered Nurse license. Board Exh. 1.

Pursuant to the respondent's request, the Board issued a Notice of Hearing dated June 21, 2000, scheduling a hearing for August 16, 2000. Board Exh. 1, p. 4.

The hearing took place on August 16, 2000, at the Legislative Office Building, Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut. Respondent was present at the hearing but was not represented by counsel. Transcript, August 16, 2000.

Each member of the Board involved in this decision attests that he/she was present at the hearing or has reviewed the record, and that this decision is based entirely on the record and the Board's specialized professional knowledge in evaluating the evidence.

Findings of Fact

Based on the testimony given and the exhibits offered into evidence, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. Pursuant to Memorandum of Decision dated April 3, 1996, the Board ordered that respondent's Registered Nurse license be placed on probation for a period of four (4) years commencing April 15, 1996, and that respondent's Advanced Practice Registered Nurse license be revoked. The order was based on the Board's findings of respondent's abuse or excessive use of the controlled substance Fiorinal. Board Exh. 1, pp. 5-14.

2. Throughout the four year probationary period described above, respondent complied with the terms of the April 3, 1996 Memorandum of Decision in that she engaged in therapy and counseling for chemical dependency, and she submitted to random urine screening. On April 15, 2000, the probationary period regarding her Registered Nurse license ended. Board Exh. 2, Respondent's Exh. A-1, A-5.
3. Respondent continues to meet with her therapist on a regular basis and participates in a 12-step substance abuse recovery program. Respondent's therapist is of the opinion that respondent's risk of relapse is small and that respondent can function responsibly as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. Board Exh. 1, p. 15; Respondent's Exh. A-1.
4. From on or about June 17, 1996 until on or about August 1, 1999, respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse at Middlesex Convalescent Center in Middletown, Connecticut. Since July 31, 1998, respondent has been employed as a Registered Nurse at Connecticut Valley Hospital, Middletown, Connecticut. Evaluations from respondent's employers indicate that respondent has consistently met the objectives set for her. Board Exh. 2; Respondent's Exh. A-3.
5. During May 1998 and May 1999, respondent completed an "Anesthesia Review and Update" course offered by the Harvard Medical School Departments of Anesthesia and Continuing Education. Respondent has also completed courses in "Nursing Management of IV Therapy" and "Difficult Behaviors and Attention Deficits." Board Exh. 1, pp. 51-64.

Discussion and Conclusions of Law

In accordance with the Notice of Hearing, respondent has the burden of satisfying the Board that she is able to practice as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with reasonable skill and safety.

The Board finds that the respondent has presented relevant evidence as required by the Notice of Hearing. Based on a review of the evidence presented, the Board concludes that respondent has met the burden of satisfying the Board of her ability to return to the practice of Advanced Practice Registered Nursing with reasonable skill and safety.

Order

Pursuant to its authority under §19a-17 and §20-99 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, the Board of Examiners for Nursing hereby orders the following:

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse license 000181, of respondent Anne Gallitto, is reinstated as of the date of this decision.

The Board of Examiners for Nursing hereby informs respondent, Anne Gallitto, and the Department of Public Health of the State of Connecticut of this decision.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 15th day of November, 2000.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

By 