

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS BRANCH**

In Re: Karrie Ellis, APRN

Petition No. 2006-1228-012-005

**CONSENT ORDER**

WHEREAS, Karrie Ellis (hereinafter "respondent") of Simsbury, Connecticut has been issued license number 001155 to practice as an advanced practical registered nurse by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended.

WHEREAS, the Department alleges:

1. From approximately August 2005 through December 6, 2006, patient #1 was under respondent's care for mental health services.
2. From approximately August 2006 through December 6, 2006 respondent did not respond to conduct engaged in by patient #1. She also did not document such behavior in patient #1's treatment notes.
3. From approximately December 7, 2006 until December 16, 2006, at a time period when patient #1 was no longer in her care, respondent made phone calls to and received phone calls from patient #1.
4. The above described allegations constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §20-99(b)(2).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegation(s) at a hearing in front of the Board of Examiners for Nursing (hereinafter "the Board").

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Respondent further agrees that this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if ordered after a full hearing pursuant to §§19a-9, 19a-10, and 20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

WHEREAS, respondent has successfully completed a class in management of mental health patients in crisis.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §19a-17 and §20-99(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives her right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent shall comply with all federal and state statutes and regulations applicable to her profession.
3. Respondent's license number 001155 to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State of Connecticut is hereby placed on probation for one year, subject to the following terms and conditions:
  - A. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to all current and future employers and her collaborative physician for the duration of her probation.
  - B. Respondent shall be responsible for the provision of monthly written reports from her employer directly to the Board and the Department. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to any and all employers and her collaborative physician if employed as a nurse during the probationary period. The Board and the Department shall be notified in writing by any employer(s) and her collaborative physician within fifteen (15) days of the commencement of employment as to the receipt of a copy of this Consent Order. Employer reports shall include documentation of respondent's ability to

safely and competently practice nursing, and shall be issued to the Board and the Department at the address cited in paragraph 3J below.

- C. Within six months of the effective date of this Consent Order, respondent shall successfully complete and provide proof of completion to the satisfaction of the Department, a class pre-approved by the Department on documentation standards.
- D. Within six months of the effective date of this Consent Order, respondent shall successfully complete and provide proof of completion to the satisfaction of the Department, a class pre-approved by the Department on boundary issues.
- E. Respondent shall obtain at her own expense, the services of a supervisor or an advanced practical registered nurse, pre-approved by the Department (hereinafter "supervisor,") to conduct a monthly random review of twenty percent (20 %) of respondent's patient records. In the event respondent has twenty (20) or fewer patients, the supervisor shall review all of respondent's patient records.
  - (1) Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to her practice supervisor. Respondent's supervisor shall furnish written confirmation to the Department of his or her engagement in that capacity and receipt of a copy of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Consent Order.
  - (2) Respondent's supervisor shall conduct such review and meet with her not less than once every month for the probationary period
  - (3) The supervisor shall have the right to monitor respondent's practice by any other reasonable means which he or she deems appropriate. Respondent shall fully cooperate with the supervisor in providing such monitoring.

- (4) Respondent shall be responsible for providing written supervisor reports directly to the Department quarterly for the duration of the probationary period. Such supervisor's reports shall include documentation of dates and duration of meetings with respondent, number and a general description of the patient records and patient medication orders and prescriptions reviewed, additional monitoring techniques utilized, and statement that respondent is practicing with reasonable skill and safety.
- F. Respondent shall notify the Board and the Department in writing of any change of employment within fifteen (15) days of such change.
- G. Respondent shall notify the Board and the Department of any change in her home or business address within fifteen (15) days of such change.
- H. If respondent pursues further training or is engaged at the time of the implementation of the Consent Order, in an educational program in any subject area that is regulated by the Department, respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to the educational institution or, if not an institution, to respondent's instructor. Such institution or instructor shall notify the Department of receipt of the Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of receipt.
- I. All reports required by the terms of this Consent Order shall be due according to a schedule to be established by the Department of Public Health.
- J. All correspondence and reports shall be addressed to:

Bonnie Pinkerton  
Department of Public Health  
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations  
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12HSR  
P.O. Box 340308  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

4. Any violation of the terms of this Consent Order without prior written approval by the Board shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek revocation of respondent's nursing license following notice and an opportunity to be heard.
5. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Board shall not be a waiver or preclude the Board's right to take action at a later time. The Board shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
6. Legal notice of any action shall be deemed sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Systems Branch of the Department.
7. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the month in which this Consent Order is approved and accepted by the Board.
8. Respondent understands this Consent Order is a public record.
9. The Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which (1) her compliance with this same order is at issue, or (2) her compliance with §20-99(b) concerning the instant petition of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order, except for a civil penalty, shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank
10. In the event respondent is not employed as a nurse for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of times shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order and such terms shall be held in abeyance. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for

complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order. In the event respondent resumes the practice of nursing, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice. Respondent shall not return to the practice of nursing without written pre-approval from the Department. Respondent agrees that the Department, in its complete discretion, may require additional documentation from respondent and/or require respondent to satisfy other conditions or terms as a condition precedent to respondent's return to practice. Respondent understands that any return to the practice of nursing without pre-approval from the Department shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may subject the respondent to further disciplinary action.

11. If, during the period of probation, respondent practices nursing outside Connecticut, she shall provide written notice to the Department concerning such employment. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order, and such time period shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order. Respondent may comply with the terms of probation while practicing outside Connecticut if pre-approved by the Department. In the event respondent intends to return to the practice of nursing in Connecticut, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained in paragraph 10 above.
12. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license before the Board.
13. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Further, this Consent Order is not

subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 and 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any other rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

14. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether an executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.
15. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement, which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
16. Respondent has consulted with an attorney prior to signing this document.
17. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the Bureau Chief of the Division of Criminal Justice's Statewide Prosecution Bureau. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only, and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
18. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

I, Karrie Ellis, have read the above Consent Order, and I agree to the terms set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

Karrie Ellis  
Karrie Ellis

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31 day of July 2009.

[Signature]  
Notary Public or person authorized  
by law to administer an oath or affirmation  
Julie M. Sorenson  
Commissioner of the State Court

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 4th day of August 2009, it is hereby accepted.

Wendy H. Furniss, RNC, M.S.  
Wendy H. Furniss  
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief,  
~~Practitioner Licensing and Investigations~~  
Healthcare Systems Branch

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing on the 19th day of August 2009, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

BY: Patricia C. Bufford  
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

September 14, 2010

Karrie Ellis, APRN  
10 Hallview Drive  
Simsbury, CT 06070

Re: Consent Order  
Petition No. 2006-1228-012-005  
License No. 001155

Dear Ms. Ellis:

Please accept this letter as notice that you have satisfied the terms of your license probation, effective September 1, 2010.

Notice will be sent to the Department's Licensure and Registration section to remove all restrictions from your license related to the above-referenced Consent Order.

Please be certain to retain a copy of this letter as documented proof that you have completed your license probation.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process, and good luck to you in the future.

Very truly yours,

Bonnie Pinkerton, RN, Nurse Consultant  
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

cc: J. Filippone  
J. Wojick



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P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134  
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