

BEFORE THE INDIANA STATE  
BOARD OF NURSING  
CAUSE NUMBER: 2004 NB 0200

STATE OF INDIANA, )  
)  
Petitioner, )  
)  
v. )  
)  
CONNIE MARIE PARR, L.P.N., )  
LICENSE NUMBER: 27031842A, )  
)  
Respondent. )

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FEB 17 2005

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND ORDER**

The Indiana State Board of Nursing ("Board") held an administrative hearing on February 17, 2005, in the Auditorium of the Conference Center, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, concerning a disciplinary complaint filed against Connie Marie Parr, L.P.N. ("Respondent").

The State of Indiana was represented by Deputy Attorney General Carrie Harmon. The Respondent did not appear in person or by counsel.

The Board, by a vote of 6-0-0, found the Respondent in default. The Board then held further proceedings in the Respondent's absence and, after considering the evidence and taking official notice of its file in this case, by a vote of 6-0-1, issues the following Findings of Fact and Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent's address, on file with the Board, is 1833 Indiana Avenue, Auburn, Indiana 46706, and she is a duly licensed practical nurse in the State of Indiana having been issued license number 27031842A.

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2. On or around January 7, 2005, Respondent was notified, by certified mail, of the date, time and place of the final hearing on the State's Complaint. The notice was returned "Unclaimed". Respondent failed to appear at the hearing scheduled January 20, 2005.

3. On January 26, 2005, the Board issued a Notice of Proposed Default Order and provided a copy to Respondent at her last known address on file with the Board. The notice was signed by Respondent before February 11, 2005. Respondent failed to respond to the Board's Notice of Proposed Default Order within seven (7) days as required by Ind. Code § 4-21.5-3-24; therefore issuance of a Default Order is appropriate.

4. Respondent worked as a licensed practical nurse at Bethlehem Woods Nursing and Rehabilitation Center ("Bethlehem Woods") at 4430 Elsdale Drive in Fort Wayne, Indiana, from approximately May 3, 1999 through January 8, 2003.

5. On January 2, 2003, a resident's physician issued an order to discontinue Vicodin for a resident at Bethlehem Woods on Respondent's hall.

6. On January 3, 2003, Respondent approached N. Collins ("Collins"), R.N., the department director, and asked Collins why the resident's Vicodin had been discontinued. Collins explained that the resident had been switched to a less potent pain medication. Respondent then stated that she had re-written the order earlier that morning and stated that she would just "scribble it off". Collins investigated the matter further and discovered that Respondent had written the order without contacting the physician.

7. On January 8, 2003, Respondent's employment with Bethlehem Woods was terminated due to Respondent's performance of a procedure outside of her scope of practice; namely, Respondent wrote a narcotic order without notifying a doctor.

8. On or around December 20, 2002, Officer Timothy Stein ("Officer Stein") of the Fort Wayne Police Department was contacted by a pharmacist at Keltsch Pharmacy in Auburn, Indiana, who wanted to report a fraudulent prescription that had been called into the voice mail system. The pharmacist claimed that a female person claiming to be a nurse at a Dr. Brett Gemlick's office called in the prescription for Vicodin for Respondent. The pharmacist called Dr. Gemlick's office to confirm the prescription, but was informed that Dr. Gemlick had not prescribed any medications for Respondent since May of 2002.

9. On or around December 20, 2002, Officer Stein contacted other local pharmacies, including the Walgreen's on Stelhorn Road in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The pharmacist at Walgreen's indicated that Respondent had filled several prescriptions for Vicodin and one for Ambien all prescribed by Dr. Gemlick.

10. On or around December 20, 2002, the pharmacist at Walgreen's further informed Officer Stein that he had filled a prescription for Vicodin for Respondent that day and was waiting for Respondent to pick the prescription up. When Respondent arrived to the pharmacy to pick the prescription up, Officer Stein placed her under arrest.

11. Respondent was charged with two (2) felony counts of possession and attempted possession of controlled substances, but the charges were dropped in August of 2003, after Respondent completed a diversion program.

12. On or about January 21, 2003, Respondent completed an intake with the Indiana Nurses Assistance Program ("ISNAP") wherein Respondent admitted to being addicted to Vicodin and that she was participating in a treatment program at Parkview Behavioral Health.

13. On or about January 22, 2003, Respondent had a positive drug screen for opiates/Darvon metabolite.

14. On or about January 23, 2003, Respondent was diagnosed with opioid dependence.

15. On or about April 7, 2003, Respondent had a positive urine drug screen for alcohol and Ultram, and Respondent admitted to diverting Ultram from her employer. ISNAP further learned from Respondent's employer that Respondent's employment had been terminated.

16. On or about May 5, 2003, ISNAP learned that Respondent had been incarcerated between April 17, 2003 and May 1, 2003 and that Respondent was to be housed in a half way house for six (6) months.

17. On or about September 28, 2004, an audit of Respondent's ISNAP case was conducted, wherein ISNAP discovered that Respondent had not submitted monthly self-reports or AA/NA documentation since January of 2004 and her last drug screen was February of 2004.

18. On or about October 15, 2004, Respondent's case with ISNAP was closed due to non-compliance.

#### **ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The conduct described above constitutes a violation of Indiana Code §25-1-9-4(a)(1)(B), in that, Respondent engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities; namely, Respondent posed as a nurse from a physician's office to call in prescriptions for controlled substances for herself to local pharmacies.

2. The conduct described above constitutes a violation of Indiana Code §25-1-9-4(a)(3), in that, Respondent knowingly violated any state statute or rule, to wit: 848 IAC 2-3-3(2), in that, Respondent performed a nursing technique or procedure for which she was

unprepared by education or experience; namely, Respondent wrote an order for narcotics without a physician's authorization.

3. The conduct described above constitutes a violation of Indiana Code §25-1-9-4(a)(4)(D) in that Respondent continued to practice although she had become unfit to practice due to addiction to, abuse of, or severe dependency upon alcohol and other drugs that endanger the public by impairing her ability to practice safely, in that, Respondent was diagnosed with opiod dependency and failed to remain in compliance with ISNAP.

**ORDER**

Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the Board issues the following Order:

1. Respondent is held in default, pursuant to Indiana Code §4-21.5-3-24.
2. Respondent's Indiana nursing license is placed on **INDEFINITE SUSPENSION** for a minimum period of **THREE (3) YEARS**.
3. Respondent must sign a Recovery Monitoring Agreement with ISNAP and have at least six (6) months compliance with the Recovery Monitoring Agreement as a condition precedent to reinstatement.
4. Respondent must pay a **FINE** of **TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$250.00)** to the Health Professions Bureau at 402 West Washington Street, Room W066, Indianapolis, IN 46204, within ninety (90) days from the date of the Order.

**SO ORDERED**, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2005.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Barbara M. McNutt  
Barbara M. McNutt  
Interim Executive Director  
Health Professions Bureau

Copies to:

Connie Marie Parr, L.P.N.

1833 Indiana Ave.

Auburn, IN 46706

**SENT CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7003 3110 0003 5658 4943**

**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.**

Deputy Attorney General Carrie Harmon

**OFFICE OF THE INDIANA ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Indiana Government Center South

302 West Washington Street, Fifth Floor

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2770