

BEFORE THE INDIANA STATE
BOARD OF NURSING
CAUSE NO.: 93 NB 026

STATE OF INDIANA,

Petitioner,

v.

LAURIE PANOS, R.N.,
License No. 28115676,

Respondent.

FILED

SEP 22 1993

HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BUREAU

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ORDER

The Indiana State Board of Nursing ("Board") pursuant to the authority of IC 4-21.5-4-1 et seq. and IC 25-1-9-10, by a vote of 7-0-0, hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the nursing license held by Laurie Panos, R.N. ("Respondent") for ninety (90) days as the Board finds that an emergency exists and that Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety if allowed to continue to practice nursing in this State.

This **NON-FINAL** emergency suspension order is based upon the following:

1. the affidavit of Sharon Krick, R.N. at St. Anthony Hospital, Michigan City, Indiana attached as Exhibit A; and

2. the affidavit of Deborah Konciek, R.N. at St. Anthony Hospital, Michigan City, Indiana attached as Exhibit B. Said affidavits were received and credited by the Board during an emergency conference held during the scheduled Board meeting of September 16, 1993.

Based on the above-described evidence, the Board finds that Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to public health and safety if allowed to continue to practice.

WHEREFORE, RESPONDENT IS ORDERED to immediately cease all acts constituting the practice of nursing for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of this Order.

Because Respondent's physical and mental capacity to practice safely is at issue, the Board, pursuant to IC 25-1-9-7, further ORDERS that Respondent undergo a complete addictionology examination to be performed by a certified addictionologist to be chosen from the names of three (3) certified addictionologists submitted by the Respondent to the Board within seven (7) days from the date of this Order. The examination results shall be submitted directly to the Office of the Attorney General and the Board not later than thirty (30) days after the Board chooses the addictionologist who will conduct the examination. The Board Orders that Respondent provide the addictionologist with a copy of this Order prior to said examination.

Pursuant to IC 4-21.5-4-4 upon request by the Respondent, the Board shall, as quickly as practicable, set this matter for an evidentiary hearing and an administrative law judge shall determine whether this Order shall be voided, terminated, modified, stayed or continued.

SO ORDERED this 22 day of September, 1993.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Thomas J. Jeffers
Acting Executive Director
Health Professions Bureau

cc: Laurie Panos
409 Maple Avenue
LaPorte, Indiana 46350
SENT CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 9-234-797-680
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.

Julia E. Dimick
Deputy Attorney General
219 State House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

4612Sd

AFFIDAVIT

I, Sharon Krick, R.N., being duly sworn upon my oath depose and say:

1. I am an adult and competent to make this affidavit based upon personal knowledge and at all times relevant to the circumstances herein, I was a Registered Nurse at St. Anthony Hospital, 301 W. Homer Street, Michigan City, Indiana.

2. I have been Laurie Panos' direct supervisor for approximately one and one half years.

3. Around December 1992 I observed a change in Laurie Panos' behavior. She began calling in sick frequently and her quality of work deteriorated such that I had to speak with her on several occasions for being rude to patients and not fulfilling her responsibilities as team leader. I recommended that she seek counseling, but she refused.

4. On June 30, 1993, I was notified by Deborah Konciek, R.N., the supervisor on duty on that date, that Laurie Panos had signed out a Demerol 50 mg IM tubex to a resident named Mrs. Cihak at 9:00 p.m., but Laurie Panos did not give the medication to the resident.

5. On July 1, 1993, I asked Mrs. Cihak if she had received pain medication during the night of June 30, 1993. Mrs. Cihak told me that she did not.

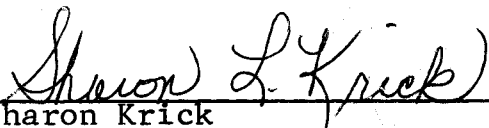
6. Laurie Panos was notified on July 1, 1993 that she should not report to work until an investigation was conducted.

7. Laurie Panos called me on July 2, 1993, at approximately 4:00 p.m. and admitted to me that she had diverted the Demerol referenced in paragraph 4 for someone else.

8. On July 5, 1993, Laurie Panos met with Mr. William Henning, director of human resources, and me. During our meeting Laurie Panos admitted that she took Demerol on June 30, 1993 for a friend. In addition, Laurie Panos volunteered that at approximately 10:45 p.m. on June 27, 1993 she also diverted Demerol that was signed out to Mrs. Cihak. She did not admit to diverting the Demerol for her own use.

9. Laurie Panos was terminated on July 7, 1993.

Further affiant sayeth naught.

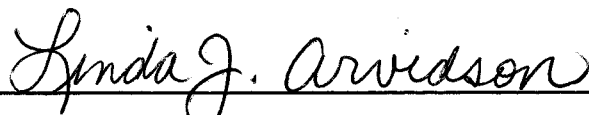

Sharon Krick

NOTARY

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF LaPORTE)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, this 9th day of September, 1993.

My Commission Expires:
November 19, 1996


Notary Public
County of Residence: Porter

AFFIDAVIT

I, Deborah Konciek, R.N., being duly sworn upon my oath depose and say:

1. I am an adult and competent to make this affidavit based upon personal knowledge and at all times relevant to the circumstances herein, I was a Registered Nurse at St. Anthony Hospital, 301 W. Homer Street, Michigan City, Indiana.

2. On June 30, 1993, I was the supervisor on duty. I was called to floor 5E by the fifth floor charge nurse because the patient in room 512 was complaining about her treatment.

3. The patient in room 512 is a nurse in St. Anthony's Home Health Care Unit. She was totally alert when I spoke with her.

4. The patient told me that Laurie Panos had been rude to her and had not provided her with any nursing care whatsoever. The patient told me that she did not want Laurie Panos to be in her room anymore.

5. I then spoke with Laurie Panos about the allegations. Laurie Panos was defensive. She stated that she had provided the patient with proper treatment. Laurie told me that she would not discuss this situation further so I told her that I would have to report this incident.

6. After speaking to Laurie Panos I met with the charge nurse and thanked her for contacting me about the patient complaint. The charge nurse then informed me that

Laurie Panos had signed out a narcotic medication and had charted that a patient named Mrs. Cihak received the medication when Mrs. Cihak was no longer receiving narcotic medication. The charge nurse told me that she became aware of the situation because Mrs. Cihak was her patient.

7. Since Laurie Panos had already left for the day, I reported the incident to Sharon Krick, R.N.

Further affiant sayeth naught.

Debra Konciek
Deborah Konciek

NOTARY

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, this 13th day of September 1993.

My Commission Expires:

02/02/96

Sandra L. Thompson

Notary Public

County of Residence: LAPORTE