

BEFORE THE INDIANA STATE
BOARD OF NURSING
CAUSE NUMBER: 2004 NB 0209

STATE OF INDIANA,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
v.)
)
LAURA MARIE WALTER, RN,)
LICENSE NO.: 28134452A,)
)
Respondent.)

RECEIVED
JAN 20 2005
INDIANA BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER CONTINUING SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Indiana State Board of Nursing ("Board"), pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code § 4-21.5-4-1 *et seq.* and Indiana Code § 25-1-9-10, at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 20, 2005, in the Auditorium of the Conference Center, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, by a vote of 6-0-0, **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the license held by Laura Marie Walter ("Respondent") for an additional ninety (90) days, as the Board finds that an emergency continues to exist and that the Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if allowed to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Indiana.

The State of Indiana was represented by Shelley M. Johnson, Deputy Attorney General. Notice was sent to Respondent, on January 6, 2005, but was returned marked, "Unclaimed. Return to Sender. Unable to forward." The Respondent failed to appear in person or by counsel.

This NON-FINAL emergency order is based on the evidence in the Board's file and the evidence presented by the Indiana State Nurses Assistance Program ("ISNAP"). Respondent was referred to ISNAP by her previous employer, St. Catherine's Medical Center, for diversion of morphine. An intake was conducted on June 11, 2003. A consumer complaint was filed with

the Office of the Attorney General and Respondent was referred to ISNAP on July 18, 2003 by the Office of the Attorney General. Respondent was diagnosed with polysubstance dependency and bipolar disorder at Methodist Rehab Center, Southlake Campus in Merrillville. Respondent entered a Recovery Monitoring Agreement on July 24, 2003.

Respondent did not enroll in Compass Vision, Inc. for urine drug screens by September 1, 2004, as required by her Recovery Monitoring Agreement. Respondent's last reported urine drug screen was August 17, 2004. Respondent missed monthly self reports for July, August and September of 2004. In addition, Respondent missed AA/NA reports for July, August and September of 2004 and her last addictionist report was received on November, 2003. Respondent's case was closed with ISNAP on October 26, 2004.

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Respondent shall immediately surrender all indicia of licensure, including her pocket license and wall license, to the Board in care of the Health Professions Bureau, 402 West Washington Street, Room W066, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

SO ORDERED, this 2nd day of March, 2005.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Barbara Marvel McNutt
Barbara Marvel McNutt
Interim Executive Director
Health Professions Bureau

Copies to:

Laura Marie Walter

874 Jordan Circle

Schererville, IN 46357

SENT REGULAR & CERTIFIED MAIL # 7003 3110 0003 5658 4066

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Deputy Attorney General Shelley M. Johnson

Office of the Attorney General

Indiana Government Center South

302 West Washington Street, Fifth Floor

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2770

SMJ/teh:192698