



STATE OF MAINE
 BOARD OF NURSING
 158 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA, MAINE
 04333-0158

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
 GOVERNOR

MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN RE: **KIM L. FORD, R.N.**) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**
 of Turner, Maine) **FOR PROBATION WITH**
 License #R035448) **CONDITIONS**

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Kim L. Ford's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(A-1)(4), 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(B), (5)(C)(3) and 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A)(B). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Kim L. Ford ("Licensee"), Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine. The parties reached this Agreement following an informal conference held on October 5, 2000 on the basis of information submitted by St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, d'Youville (St. Mary's) by letters dated May 25, 1999 and June 30, 1999.

FACTS

1. Kim L. Ford has been licensed by the Board to practice registered professional nursing since 1992.
2. Kim L. Ford drew blood from a heparinized bag instead of the patient as ordered and presented the blood as an accurate draw. Ms. Ford failed to report or document her actions. Another nurse who reported the incident observed the improper draw.
3. Kim L. Ford admitted to the Board that she had made this type of draw on prior occasions.
4. Kim L. Ford admitted that on another occasion she drew an insufficient blood sample from an adult. She then transferred this insufficient blood sample which was contained in a heparinized tube, to a pediatric tube containing heparin, causing a greater heparin to blood ratio with the potential for patient harm. Ms. Ford failed to notify anyone of her actions or properly document the draw.
5. The licensee lost custody of control of the results of the bloodwork.
6. Kim L. Ford assumed duties and responsibilities within the practice of nursing without adequate preparation and she failed to take appropriate action and to follow policies and procedures in nursing practice.

AGREEMENT

7. Kim L. Ford's conduct constitutes grounds for discipline under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(F) and (2)(H).



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OFFICES LOCATED AT: 24 STONE ST., AUGUSTA, ME
 PHONE: (207) 287-1133

8. Kim L. Ford's license to practice registered professional nursing is placed on a probationary status with conditions for a period of two years of nursing employment. The conditions of probation are as follows:
9. Kim L. Ford will take part in continuing education regarding the policies and procedures of nursing practice, the legal issues and implications of nursing practice and professional responsibility.
10. Kim L. Ford will notify any and all of her nursing employers of the terms of this Consent Agreement and shall provide them with a copy of it. For purposes of this Consent Agreement, nursing employment is any employment during which Ms. Ford performs nursing services or holds herself out as a nurse such as through the designation "R.N."
11. Kim L. Ford will immediately notify the Board in writing of any employment in the field of nursing, including the place and position of employment and of any change in nursing employment.
12. Kim L. Ford will arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her nursing employer(s) addressing her nursing competence and practice.
13. Kim L. Ford understands and agrees that her license will remain on probationary status and subject to the terms of this Agreement indefinitely beyond the two year probationary period, until and unless the Board, at Ms. Ford's request, votes to terminate Ms. Ford's probation. When considering whether to terminate probation, the Board will consider Ms. Ford's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement.
14. Kim L. Ford understands and agrees that the Board may suspend Ms. Ford's license without further proceedings if it determines that Ms. Ford has engaged in further conduct that evidences the lack of knowledge or ability to apply the principles or skills necessary to safely carry out the practice of professional nursing. Ms. Ford further understands and agrees, in such event, that her license will remain suspended unless and until Ms. Ford can prove to the satisfaction of the Board that her license may be reinstated consistent with the public health and welfare in the area of nursing service.
15. The Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts so long as Ms. Ford fully complies with the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement.
16. Kim L. Ford understands and agrees that this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. Ms. Ford understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into this Consent Agreement.
17. Kim L. Ford affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
18. Modification of this Consent Agreement must in writing and signed by all the parties.
19. This Consent Agreement is not subject to appeal or review by the Licensee but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
20. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

I, KIM L. FORD, R.N., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING
CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE
CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY THREAT OR
PROMISE. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE
ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.

DATED: 12/28/00

Kim L Ford
KIM L. FORD, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

DATED: Jan 5, 2001

Myra Broadway
MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.
Executive Director

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED: 1/9/01

John H. Richards
JOHN H. RICHARDS, ESQ.
Assistant Attorney General