



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: )  
**CATHERINE L. MITCHELL** )  
 of Arrowsic, Maine )  
 License #R018039 )  
**CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR**  
**VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**  
**OF LICENSE**

**INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Catherine L. Mitchell's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine, entered into pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5). The parties to this Agreement are Catherine L. Mitchell, the Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General. This Consent Agreement arises out of information received by the Board by letter dated June 5, 1997 from St. Mary's Regional Medical Center and the informal conference between the Board and the licensee on February 11, 1998.

**FACTS**

1. Catherine L. Mitchell admits that she consumed alcohol and reported to work smelling of alcohol.
2. Ms. Mitchell was terminated by St. Mary's Regional Medical Center as a result of her conduct.
3. Ms. Mitchell has been a registered nurse for 20 years and until 1996 had a good work history.
4. Ms. Mitchell admits that her substance abuse started in 1996.
5. Ms. Mitchell completed an addiction program in Bath on or about November of 1996. Thereafter, Ms. Mitchell received counseling until April, 1997.
6. Ms. Mitchell admits that she had a relapse in June, 1997.
7. Ms. Mitchell is not currently in active treatment for substance abuse.
8. Ms. Mitchell is not currently practicing nursing.



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

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**AGREEMENT**

1. Ms. Mitchell's conduct constitutes grounds for discipline under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(E)(1) and (F).
2. Ms. Mitchell agrees voluntarily to surrender her license to practice nursing.
3. Ms. Mitchell agrees and understands that her license to practice nursing shall not be reinstated unless and until she meets the following conditions:
  - A. **Substance Free**: Ms. Mitchell must abstain completely from the use of alcohol or drugs, with the exception of substances used in accordance with a valid prescription from a physician who is aware of Ms. Mitchell's substance abuse history.
  - B. **Treatment**: Ms. Mitchell must complete a treatment program for substance abuse and relapse.
  - C. **Aftercare**: Ms. Mitchell must complete any and all aftercare recommended by her treatment program.
  - D. **Employment**: Ms. Mitchell shall not work in any capacity in the health care field, including in a veterinarian office, while her nursing license is surrendered.
  - E. **Confidentiality and Release of Records**: Ms. Mitchell waives any claims of confidentiality and privilege which she may have with respect to treatment that she receives for her substance abuse. Ms. Mitchell further agrees that the Board shall have access to any and all medical and treatment records and all otherwise confidential or medically privileged information pertaining to her substance abuse which the Board deems necessary to evaluate Ms. Mitchell's compliance with this Consent Agreement and her continued recovery. Ms. Mitchell shall provide such information, shall authorize the release of such records and information, and shall authorize any such discussions and communications with any and all persons involved in her substance abuse treatment and counseling as may be requested by the Board for the purpose of evaluating Ms. Mitchell's compliance with this Consent Agreement and her continued recovery.
  - F. **Request for Reinstatement**: When and if Ms. Mitchell believes that she has met the above conditions, Ms. Mitchell may request in writing that the Board consider reinstatement of her license on probationary status. Ms. Mitchell agrees and understands that her license will not be reinstated until and unless the Board, upon Ms. Mitchell's written request, votes to reinstate Ms. Mitchell's license. When considering whether to reinstate Ms. Mitchell's license on probationary status, the

Board will consider the degree to which Ms. Mitchell has complied with these conditions.

4. **Further Action:** The Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts as long as Ms. Mitchell fully complies with these conditions.
5. **Miscellaneous Provisions:** Ms. Mitchell understands that this document is a Consent Agreement which affects her rights to practice nursing in Maine. This Consent Agreement may be amended only in writing, signed by all the parties. Ms. Mitchell 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. Ms. Mitchell affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
6. **Effective Date:** This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the last necessary signature below.

DATED: February 27, 1998

Catherine L. Mitchell  
CATHERINE L. MITCHELL

**FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:**

DATED: March 2, 1998

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

**FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

DATED: March 2, 1998

Susan A. Sparaco  
SUSAN A. SPARACO  
Assistant Attorney General

RECEIVED  
MARCH 5 1998  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
MAINE