

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

ANGUS S. KING, JR.

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

IN RE:	SUSAN B. RUCKER, R.N.	)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
	of Portsmouth, New Hampshire	)	FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
	License #R040570	)	OF LICENSE

## INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Susan B. Rucker'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)(B) and 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Susan B. Rucker, Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine. The parties reached this Agreement as result of information submitted by Southern Maine Medical Center by letter dated December 17, 1998.

## **FACTS**

- 1. On November 25, 1998 John Rust, R.N. Emergency Leader was notified, anonymously, by a staff R.N. that Ms. Rucker had removed Demerol from the pyxis machine on a patient that had no doctor's order. A pyxis review of narcotic transactions assessed by Susan Rucker was ordered from the pharmacy. The list of transactions were compared to each patient's chart and found on multiple transactions that Ms. Rucker had drawn out of pyxis, Demerol that had not been ordered for patients. It was also discovered that Ms. Rucker took much larger amounts of Demerol out of pyxis than needed and did not waste the excess.
- 2. Susan B. Rucker was terminated from her employment at Southern Maine Medical Center on December 4, 1998.
- 3. On July 7, 1999 Ms. Rucker voluntarily surrendered her nursing license to the Maine State Board of Nursing.

## **AGREEMENT**

- 4. The Maine State Board of Nursing will accept Susan B. Rucker's voluntary surrender of her license, license number R040570.
- 5. Susan B. Rucker shall not work, in any capacity, in the health care field, including in a veterinarian's office, while her nursing license is surrendered. In addition, Ms. Rucker is not to seek employment where the handling or dispensing of drugs is part of the job responsibility.



- 6. Susan B. Rucker may petition the Board for reinstatement of her license. Ms. Rucker agrees and understands that her license will not be reinstated until and unless the Board, upon Ms. Rucker's written request, votes to reinstate Ms. Rucker's license.
- 7. Susan B. Rucker understands that this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Maine. Ms. Rucker understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement and that she has the right to consult with an attorney before entering the Consent Agreement.
- 8. Modification of this Consent Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.
- 9. Susan B. Rucker affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
- 10. This Consent Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
- 11. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

DATED: \_/0/1/99

SUSAN B. RUCKER, R.N.

FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:

DATED: Oct 6, 1999

MYRA'A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.

**Executive Director** 

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:

DATED: 10/6/99

JOHN H' RICHARDS ' Assistant Attorney General