

STATE OF MAINE BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE 137 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0137

EDWARD DAVID, M.D.J.D. CHAIRMAN

RANDAL C. MANNING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 14, 2007

Bruce A. Hansen, P.A.-C 313 Fowler Rd. Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

RE: CONSENT AGREEMENT

Dear Mr. Hansen:

The Board has reviewed and considered your request to terminate your Consent Agreement dated February 8, 2005. The Board denied your request at the March 13, 2007 Board meeting based on the latest report from John Erikson, M.D. In that report Dr. Erikson states he and Dr. Lichtman feel you are not ready to return to work as a physician assistant. Before reconsidering termination of your Consent Agreement, the Board would ask for more specific, up to date information regarding why the agreement should be terminated.

The Board will make reports to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to the Federation of State Medical Boards documenting the end of your probation period. However, you will still be responsible for continuing medication management for situational depression with Marianne DeCain Tarraza. You will continue to participate in professional therapy and counseling with Susan Lichtman, Ph.D., who will provide the Board with quarterly reports. You should be employed in a situation, which provides on-site supervision and not work more than a total of forty (40) hours per week with no overnight shift work.

If you have any questions please, feel free to contact me at (207) 287-6931.

Very truly yours,

Maria A. MacDonald

Maus a MacDosala

Field Investigator

/mm

Cc: Maureen Lathrop

CR 06-397

STATE OF MAINE BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE

| In re: |) | CONSENT AGREEMENT |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Bruce A. Hansen, P.AC. |) | AND |
| | | RENEWAL OF LICENSE |

This document is a Consent Agreement, effective when signed by all parties, entered into by Bruce A. Hansen, P.A.-C. ("the Licensee"), the State of Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine ("the Board") and the Maine Department of the Attorney General.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 1. The Licensee has been licensed as a Physician Assistant in the State of Maine since August 11, 1999.
- 2. In December 2003, the Licensee began his employment as a clinical instructor for the University of New England ("UNE"). His duties included working at York County Jail (the "Jail") for 4 to 8 hours per week with shared call duties, under a contract between UNE and the Jail.
- 3. On January 20, 2004, the Licensee strained his back pushing the medication cart while passing out medications to the inmates, as ordered by his supervisors at UNE due to the absence of nursing staff. He had not been trained to pass medications or to handle the heavy medication cart even though he had a history of back pain. His physician prescribed Ultram for back spasm and pain.
- 4. On January 24, 2004, the Licensee was called at home several times throughout the night to come to the Jail in order to suture the lacerations of an inmate who had attempted suicide. He came in around 6 a.m. to attend to the inmate as requested. The nurse who had been scheduled to come to work the day shift that morning quit without notice. Since the beginning

of January, three other healthcare providers had quit unexpectedly. The Licensee attempted to contact his supervisors at UNE several times because he had been awake for 24 hours covering the Jail clinic and medical emergencies and his supervising physician had advised him to stay home and catch up on his rest. None of his calls were returned. The Licensee was the only person available to cover the dayshift on January 24, 2004. No other staff was onsite to cover the morning medication pass.

- 5. When the Licensee began the medication pass that morning, he had difficulty pushing the medication cart because of severe back pain. He had left his medication at home. When he noticed that an inmate was taking the same medication his physician had prescribed for his back pain, the Licensee asked the inmate for one of his Ultram. This request was made, the inmate agreed and the medication was taken by the Licensee in the presence of the inmate and a correction officer. The inmate received his medication as prescribed.
- 6. The Licensee was asked to leave the facility by the supervisor of the Jail after he learned about the Licensee's actions. The Licensee was also terminated as a clinical instructor by UNE and this action was reported to the Board of Licensure in Medicine. The Board issued a complaint against the Licensee and his renewal application has not been acted upon by the Board pending resolution of this complaint.
- 7. Since February 2004, the Licensee has sought and has been undergoing professional counseling. He is currently under the supervision of Gordon Clark, M.D., at Integrated Behavioral Health Care in Portland, Maine, pursuant to a referral from John E. Erickson, M.D., the Licensee's primary care physician for the past twenty-three years.

AGREEMENT

In lieu of proceeding to an adjudicatory hearing and in order to resolve the pending matter, the Licensee, the Board and the Attorney General's Office agree to the following:

- 1. The Licensee's conduct is subject to discipline as a violation of 32 M.R.S.A. § 3282-A (2) because it is a violation of a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which the Licensee is licensed. His error in judgment was due in large part to extreme exhaustion, stress and pain which resulted from trying to provide the medical care expected at the Jail under the UNE contract without nursing support.
- 2. For the duration of this Agreement, the Licensee will continue medication management for situational depression with Marianne DeCain Tarraza, a psychiatric nurse practitioner at the Integrated Behavioral Health Care in Portland, Maine. He will also continue to participate in professional therapy and counseling with Susan Lichtman, Ph.D., under the supervision of Dr. Gordon Clark at Integrated Behavioral Health Care. She will provide quarterly reports to the Board through Dr. John Erickson on the Licensee's fitness to practice as a Physician Assistant.
- 3. The Licensee will work in an employment situation which provides on-site supervision. He will not work in any position that requires more than a total of forty (40) hours per week with no overnight shift work.
- 4. The Licensee will be on probation for the term of this agreement which is two (2) years from the date of signing. His license will be renewed when this Agreement is approved by the Board.

5. The Licensee may petition the Board for a modification of this Agreement by submitting such a request in writing to the Board. This Consent Agreement cannot be amended orally. This decision may be made by the Board, in its discretion, with or without a hearing.

I, BRUCE A. HANSEN, P.A.-C., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO AN ADJUDICATORY HEARING AND THE RIGHT TO SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS AND APPEALS IN ANY COURT. I SIGN THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT 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, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

| ANY COURT. I SIGN THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT 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, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE. | | |
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| DATED: 02/02 | /2005 | BROCE A. HANSEN, P.AC. |
| STATE OFMA | NE | _ |
| CUMBERLAN | <u>D</u> | S.S. |
| the truth of the foregoin | ng based upon his o | above–named Bruce A. Hansen, P.AC., and swore to wn personal knowledge, or upon information and belief, he believes it to be true. |
| DATED: 7/2 | 105 | NOTARY PUBLIC/ATTORNEY |
| | | MY COMMISSION ENDS: LYNNE CRANDALL Notary Public, Maine My Commission Expires June 16, 2006 |
| | | STATE OF MAINE BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE |

DATED: 2/8/05 Sheidan R. Oldham, MD

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATED:

2/8/05

Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED EFFECTIVE: