

**BEFORE THE OREGON
STATE BOARD OF NURSING**

In the Matter of

Christopher Rice, RN

License No. 081001590RN

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**FINAL ORDER
BY DEFAULT**

Reference No. 12-00625

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating and disciplining certain health care providers, including Registered Nurses, in the State of Oregon. Christopher Rice (Licensee) is a Registered Nurse (RN) in the State of Oregon.

This Matter was considered by the Oregon State Board of Nursing at a regular meeting in Portland, Oregon on November 16, 2011.

On October 27, 2011, a Notice stating that the Board intended to suspend the Registered Nurse license of Christopher Rice was sent to Licensee by certified and regular mail to his address of record. This Notice alleged that Licensee had failed to cooperate with the Board during the course of an investigation. The Notice further granted to Licensee an opportunity for hearing, if requested, within 20 days of the mailing of the Notice. No such request for hearing has been received by the Board. The Notice designated the Board's file on this matter as the record for purposes of default.

NOW THEREFORE, after consideration of the records and files of the Board related to this Matter, the Board enters the following Order.

-I-

FINDINGS OF FACT

Based on the evidence submitted through the Notice and the agency file in this case, the Board finds the following:

- 1.1 Christopher Rice is a Registered Nurse in the state of Oregon, and has been licensed since November 10, 1998.
- 1.2 On September 20, 2011, it was reported to the Board that that while working as a Registered Nurse at Hood River Care Center, Licensee failed to replace a patient catheter, and was verbally abusive towards a patient.

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- 1.3 On September 28, 2011, Board staff sent Licensee a letter to his address of record, instructing him to contact the Board within ten business days to schedule an interview with Board staff to discuss the matter. Licensee failed to schedule an interview.
- 1.4 On October 12, 2011, Board staff sent a letter to Licensee's address of record requesting he contact the Board within 5 business days to schedule an appointment to discuss the matter. Licensee failed to schedule an interview.

-II-

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 2.1 That the Board has jurisdiction over Licensee and over the subject matter of this proceeding.
- 2.2 That Licensee's failure to cooperate with the Board during the course of an investigation as described in Section I above, constitutes Conduct Derogatory to Standards of Nursing, in violation of ORS 678.111 (1) (f) and (g) and OAR 851-045-0070 (7) (c).
- 2.3 That Licensee defaulted on the Notice by not requesting a hearing within the allotted 20 days and as a result, pursuant to ORS 183.310 to 183.750, the Board may enter a Final Order by default.

-III-

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and the Board being fully advised in the premises, it is hereby:

ORDERED that Christopher Rice's Registered Nurse license in the State of Oregon is suspended. The suspension shall be for a minimum of two (2) weeks, commencing five (5) business days from the date this Final Order is signed, and remain in effect until such time that Mr. Rice has fully cooperated with the Board's investigation

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Should the Board reinstate the Registered Nurse license of Christopher Rice, he would be subject to whatever terms and conditions the Board may impose.

DATED this _____ day of November, 2011

FOR THE BOARD OF NURSING OF THE STATE OF OREGON

Patricia Markesino, RN
Board President

To Christopher Rice:

You may file a petition for reconsideration or rehearing of this Order. Reconsideration or rehearing may be obtained by filing a petition with the Board of Nursing within 60 days from the service of this Order. Your petition shall set forth the specific grounds for reconsideration. Reconsideration or rehearing is pursuant to the provisions in ORS 183.482.

As an alternative to filing a Petition for Reconsideration of this Order, you are entitled to judicial review of this Order. Judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition with the Oregon Court of Appeals for review within 60 days from the date of service of this Order. Judicial review is pursuant to the provisions of ORS 183.482 to the Oregon Court of Appeals.