

**BEFORE THE OREGON
STATE BOARD OF NURSING**

In the Matter of) **STIPULATED ORDER FOR**
Corinne Alvarez, LPN) **REPRIMAND**
)
License No. 200910696CNA,) **Reference No. 12-01499**
201030437LPN

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) is the agency responsible for the licensure and regulation of Licensed Practical Nurses in the State of Oregon. Corinne Alvarez (Licensee) is a Licensed Practical Nurse in Oregon.

On January 10, 2012, while working as a nurse at Coast Forks Nursing Center, Licensee was reported to the Board for engaging in an inappropriate personal and physical relationship with PW, a former patient at the facility. Licensee met PW while he was a patient at the facility receiving nursing care in May, 2011. While he resided at the facility, Licensee became engaged to PW, and they were intimately involved while he was a patient. Licensee failed to disclose her relationship with PW to her supervisor or the administrator of the facility until just prior to PW's discharge from the facility.

Licensee stated that she was not regularly assigned to provide nursing care for PW while he was a patient, although she did perform occasional blood sugar testing. She stated that the contact she had with PW was consensual, and that she had not engaged in personal contact with him during working hours. She stated that their relationship was conducted at times when she was off-duty.

Licensee expressed remorse for her actions, and stated that she had not fully understood the potential impact this could have on PW's care in the facility. She stated that she now understands the importance of maintaining professional boundaries with patients under her care, and will not engage in any similar behavior in the future. Licensee agreed to take continuing education courses on Professional Boundaries, and Righting a Wrong to help her improve her nursing practice.

Licensee admits that the above conduct, if proven at hearing would constitute the practice of nursing in a substandard manner, and as such would be subject to disciplinary action in violation of the provisions of ORS 678.111 (1) (f) and (g); and OAR 851-045-0070 (1) (m) and (n); and (4) (b), which provide as follows:

Nurses, regardless of role, whose behavior fails to conform to the legal standard and accepted standards of the nursing profession, or who may adversely affect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, may be found guilty of conduct derogatory to the standards of nursing. Such conduct shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

678.111 Causes for denial, revocation, suspension of license or probation, reprimand or

censure of licensee

In the manner prescribed in ORS chapter 183 for a contested case:

(1) Issuance of the license to practice nursing, whether by examination or by endorsement, of any person may be refused or the license may be revoked or suspended or the licensee may be placed on probation for a period specified by the Oregon State Board of Nursing and subject to such condition as the board may impose or may be issued a limited license or may be reprimanded or censured by the board, for any of the following causes:

(f) Conduct derogatory to the standards of nursing.

(g) Violation of any provision of ORS 678.010 to 678.445 or rules adopted thereunder.

Conduct Derogatory to the Standards of Nursing Defined 851-045-0070

Nurses, regardless of role, whose behavior fails to conform to the legal standard and accepted standards of the nursing profession, or who may adversely affect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, may be found guilty of conduct derogatory to the standards of nursing. Such conduct shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Conduct related to the client's safety and integrity:

(m) Engaging in or attempting to engage in sexual contact with a client; and

(n) Failing to maintain professional boundaries with a client.

(4) Conduct related to achieving and maintaining clinical competency:

(b) Failing to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing nursing practice. Actual injury need not be established.

Licensee wishes to cooperate with the Board in resolving this matter. Therefore the following will be proposed to the Board and is agreed to by Licensee:

That the Licensed Practical Nurse License of Corinne Alvarez shall be reprimanded.

That Licensee shall complete course work on Professional Boundaries and Righting a Wrong within 30 days of the acceptance of this Stipulation. All courses shall be pre-approved by Board staff, and Licensee shall provide proof of completion of each course either through certificates of completion or transcripts.

Licensee shall be financially responsible for any costs she may incur as a result of compliance with the terms and conditions of this Stipulation.

Licensee understands that, in the event she engages in future conduct resulting in violations of law or violations of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation, the Board may take further disciplinary action against her, up to and including revocation of her nursing license.

Licensee understands that this Stipulation will be submitted to the Board for approval, and that it is subject to its confirmation. Licensee understands that this Stipulation is a public record.

Licensee understands that, by entering into this Stipulation, she waives the right to an administrative hearing under ORS 183.310 to 183.550.

Licensee, by her signature below, attests that she has read and understands this Stipulation and agrees to abide by its terms and conditions. Licensee further attests that no promises, representations, duress, or coercion have been used to induce her to sign this Stipulation.

IT IS SO AGREED:

Corinne Alvarez, LPN

Date

ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED:

BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF OREGON

Kay Carnegie, RN, MS
Board President

Date