

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

LUZ BELLA DELA CRUZ, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
LS9909178NUR

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**98 NUR 029**

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stats. sec. 227.53 are:

*Luz Bella Dela Cruz  
258 Hearthside Drive  
Bloomington, IL 60108*

*Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

*Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935*

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Luz Bella Dela Cruz (D.O.B. 04/17/59) is duly licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a registered nurse (license # 121612). This license was first granted December 7, 1995.
2. Respondent's latest address on file with the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 258 Hearthside Drive, Bloomington, IL 60108.
3. On January 5, 1998, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at Marshfield Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and was assigned to work the night shift. Respondent was responsible for the care of resident JW during her work shift.
4. Policies in effect at Marshfield Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in January, 1998, required that any significant change of condition of a resident must be immediately reported to the attending physician. Examples of "significant changes of condition" included abnormal body temperature and abnormal changes in vital signs.
5. Resident JW was admitted to the rehabilitation center at 2:15 p.m. on January 5, 1998, following

hospitalization for pneumonia, sepsis and a shoulder ulcer. JW also experienced chronic hypertension. A physician's note in the hospital discharge summary indicated that the patient's temperature had returned to normal, his vital signs were stable and his chest was clear to auscultation. During the admission assessment of JW it was noted that the resident had wheezes in his lung fields. In addition, JW developed an elevated body temperature, 100.8 degrees at 8:00 p.m. and 101.8 degrees at 10:00 p.m.

6. Upon admission JW's blood pressure was recorded as 156/72. By 12:45 a.m. on January 6<sup>th</sup> the blood pressure had dropped to 70/54. Blood pressure readings at 3:30 a.m. and 5:30 a.m. respectively were 70/50 and 72/50. Nurses notes indicate that JW became restless during the night.

1. Respondent did not report the changes in condition of resident JW to the physician or nurse supervisor.

8. At 6:45 a.m. on January 6<sup>th</sup> Respondent answered JW's call light and found the resident pale, pupils dilated, and no pulse. Although the patient was designated full code status, Respondent did not initiate CPR, contrary to facility policy.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

By the conduct described above, Lus Bella Dela Cruz is subject to disciplinary action against her license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 441.07(1)(b), (c) and (d), and Wis. Adm. Code sec. N 7.03(1)(a), (b) and (c), and N 7.04(1) and (15).

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that :

1. Luz Bella Dela Cruz is REPRIMANDED.
2. The license of Respondent to practice as a nurse in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED as follows:
  - a. Respondent shall certify to the Board the successful completion of an approved course of training in patient assessment and monitoring within 9 months of the date of this order. Within 2 months of the date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the Board designee an outline of the required training for approval, which shall contain the name of the institution providing the instruction, the name of the instructor, and the course content.

Failure by Respondent to fully and timely comply with the educational requirements of this Order shall result in the suspension of Respondent's license to practice as a nurse without further notice or hearing, until such time as full compliance with the provisions of this Order has been attained.

- b. For a period of not less than two years from the date of this Order Respondent shall arrange for her employer to provide quarterly written reports assessing Respondent's work performance to the Department Monitor in the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935, FAX (608) 266-2264.

- a. Respondent shall provide her nursing employers with a copy of this Order before engaging in any nursing employment.

- d. Upon a showing by Respondent of continuous successful compliance in active professional practice with the terms of this Order for a period of at least two years , the Board may grant a petition by Respondent for restoration of an unlimited license.

3. The rights of a party aggrieved by this Decision to petition the Board for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth on the attached "Notice of Appeal Information".

4. This Order shall become effective upon the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Timothy D. Burns, CRNA

September 17, 1999

A Member of the Board

Date