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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST : ORDER GRANTING STAY

:

BARBARA J. BENOIT, R.N., : LS0206063NUR

RESPONDENT. :

On June 6, 2002, the Board of Nursing entered its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter. By the terms of the board's Order, Ms. Benoit's license was suspended for an indefinite period, and she was permitted to apply after 60 days to the Board for a stay of suspension for a period of three months, conditioned upon compliance with certain conditions and limitations. Respondent was required to enroll and continue successful participation in all components of a drug and alcohol treatment program at a treatment facility acceptable to the Board. The rehabilitation program is required to include and respondent is required to participate in individual and/or group therapy sessions for the first year of the stayed suspension upon a schedule as recommended by the supervising physician or therapist, but not less than once weekly. Respondent is required to attend Narcotics Anonymous and/or Alcoholic Anonymous meetings or an equivalent program for recovering professionals, upon a frequency as recommended by the supervising physician or therapist, but not less than one meeting per week. Also as a part of the program, M. Benoit was required to enroll and begin participation in a drug and alcohol monitoring program testing urine specimens at a frequency of not less than 52 times per year. Finally, Ms. Benoit is required to refrain from access to or the administration of controlled substances in her work setting until such time as access or administration is approved by the Board, and is prohibited from working as a home health nurse.

On September 5, 2002, and December 5, 2002, the board granted Ms. Benoit's petitions for three month stays of the suspension of her license.

On March 7, 2003, the board considered that Ms. Benoit was due for a further three month stay of the suspension of her license. The board also considered, however, that no request for a further stay was received from Ms. Benoit, and that not all reports had been received. The board therefore denied a further stay.

On April 4, 2003, the board granted Ms. Benoit's request for a further stay of the suspension of her license.

On August 8, 2003, the board granted Ms. Benoit's request for a further stay of the suspension.

On November 7, 2003, the board considered Ms. Benoit's request for a further stay of the suspension, and her further requests for a reduction in the number of urine screens and therapy sessions, and to permit her access to controlled substances in her employment. Based upon all information of record herein, the board orders as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the suspension of the license of Barbara Benoit, RN, to practice as a professiona nurse in Wisconsin is hereby stayed for a further period of three months.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Benoit's request for a reduction in urine screens is denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the number of required therapy sessions is hereby reduced to two per month.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ms. Benoit is hereby permitted access to controlled substances at her place of nursing employment.

Dated this 11th day of November, 2003.

STATE OF WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

Linda M. Sanner, RN, Chair