

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS
RE: GIA DANSON, RN

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION UNDER
SDCL §36-9-49.1 and §1-26-29**

License No. R-030404

Licensee.

GIA DANSON, RN, Licensee, is licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the State of South Dakota and holds license number R-030404 and

WHEREAS, Licensee was mandated into participation with the Health Professionals Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, Licensee has been noncompliant with HPAP and the program has required that she sign a voluntary refrain from practice agreement;

WHEREAS, Licensee has admitted to diversion and theft of controlled substances; and

WHEREAS, the Board has a statutory obligation to protect the public health, safety and welfare set forth in SDCL 36-9, including the protection of the public from unsafe nursing practices and practitioners; and

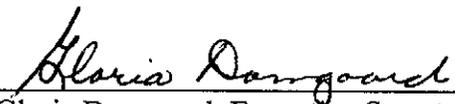
WHEREAS, SDCL § 36-9-49.1 and 1-26-29 provide that the Board may suspend a Licensee's license under the conditions as set forth therein in that the public health, safety and welfare imperatively require emergency action; now,

THEREFORE, THE BOARD ORDERS:

1. That the Board has jurisdiction of the Licensee and the subject matter of this Order.

2. That based upon the above recitals and the affidavit on file herein, the Board specifically finds that the public health, safety and welfare require emergency action pending proceedings for further action against Licensee's license. The recitals set forth above are specifically found by the Board.
3. The Board specifically finds by clear and convincing evidence that the Licensee has committed the conduct and failed to comply with HPAP as stated in the recitals above and that the actions of Licensee endanger the public health, safety and welfare, and imperatively require emergency action and that the actions may endanger the health and safety of those persons who are or will be entrusted to her care in the future and that these matters are of a nature that would constitute further grounds for discipline of her license to practice nursing under SDCL § 36-9-49.
4. Based upon these findings and until the Board further acts upon notice to the Licensee to address Licensee's noncompliance with mandated HPAP, which shall be held at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, the Licensee's license to practice nursing in South Dakota is hereby suspended. This matter shall be considered by the South Dakota Board of Nursing at its next regularly scheduled Board meeting on November 13, 2003, at 1:30 p.m. at the office of the South Dakota Board of Nursing, 4305 S. Louise Avenue, Suite 201, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at which time Licensee may appear in person and/or by counsel to address the above findings and such other matters as are brought to her attention with the Board.
5. Licensee shall return her license to the Board within ten (10) days from the date of this Order.
6. Licensee is also hereby notified that any practice as or holding herself out as a licensed nurse during the term of this summary suspension is a violation of SDCL § 36-9-68.

The above Order was adopted as shown herein by the South Dakota Board of Nursing this 18th day of September, 2003, by a vote of 9-0.



Gloria Damgaard, Executive Secretary