

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS**

RE: DEBRA WOODWARD

License No. R-025715

Licensee,

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION
UNDER SDCL §§ 36-9-49.1
AND 1-26-29 AND
ORDER FOR
EXAMINATION**

Debra Woodward, R.N, (“Licensee”) is licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the State of South Dakota and holds License numbers R-025715; and

WHEREAS, it has been alleged that, following a complaint that while employed at the Highmore Healthcare Center in Highmore, South Dakota, Licensee failed to properly document nursing interventions, failed to properly perform nursing assessments, failed to follow narcotic count procedures, failed to follow proper insulin procedures, failed to notify an on-coming nurse of care information concerning residents, and engaged in erratic, unstable behavior while on duty, all during December, 2003 to January, 2004, Board Employee Nancy Bohr and Nursing Discipline Consultant Michele Crissman conducted an informal meeting with Licensee at the Board office in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on February 6, 2004, and became concerned about Licensee’s behaviors prior to and at the meeting,; and such conduct, if proven, would be inconsistent with the health or safety of the persons entrusted to her care, and violates the statutes and rules regulating the practice of nursing, and is a violation of SDCL § 36-9-49(5),(7) and (10); and

WHEREAS, it has been alleged that at the informal meeting, as more fully described in the

affidavit of Michele Crissman on file herein, Licensee appeared angry, accusatory toward staff, and paranoid. Licensee simply refused to cooperate and indicated that she would not go through with a hearing, and that based upon the meeting Board staff has concluded that the public health, safety and welfare imminently require emergency action suspending Licensee's nursing license and that Licensee have a psychological examination, pursuant to SDCL §36-9-49.1 at the Board's expense, so that the report may be furnished for further action by the full Board of Nursing at its April, 2004, Board meeting. ; 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 allow the Board to take action upon a showing that the physical or mental condition of the Licensee endangers the health or safety of those persons who are or will be entrusted to her care, or endangers the public health or safety; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED,

1. That the Board has jurisdiction of the Licensee and the subject matter of this Order.
2. That based upon the above recitals, 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 not observed the employment restrictions in her order as stated in the recitals above and that the actions of Licensee in not observing the employment restrictions 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 on the complaints being investigated concerning Licensee's actions at the Highmore Care Center as described in the

recitals above 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 at the South Dakota Board of Nursing meeting held in April, 2004, with the results of the mental and psychiatric examination as ordered herein to be presented to the Board at that time for consideration along with the investigation of the Board staff on the complaints described in the recitals and findings herein.

- 5 Licensee shall submit her license to the Board and it shall be kept until further action on this matter.
6. Licensee is further notified pursuant to SDCL §36-9-49.1, that a majority of the Board has demanded a psychological/psychiatric examination of Licensee, at the Board's expense, by the following competent psychological/psychiatric examiner:

Jason Anderson, DO
Sioux Valley Clinic – University Physician's Psychiatry
2812 South Louise Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57106
Telephone: (605) 328-4700

Licensee may, in the alternative, undergo this examination at Dr. Anderson's Madison, SD office with the address of:

Community Counseling Center
914 NE 3rd Street
Madison, SD 57042
Telephone: (605) 256-9656

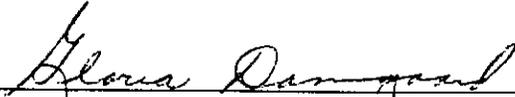
Licensee must contact said professional examiner and have an appointment made on or before March 20, 2004, with the results to be furnished to the Board. Licensee must advise the Board on or before March 1, 2004, as to when the Licensee has scheduled an appointment so that the Board may provide Licensee's file to the examiner. The examiner must contact the Board office prior to the examination. If the Licensee fails to comply with the Board's direction, the Board may continue summary suspension pursuant to SDCL § 36-9-49.1.

- 7 Further orders concerning the Licensee's license shall be based upon a review of the assessments furnished herein and the investigative report file herein and any subsequent conduct by the Licensee.

- 8 Licensee is also hereby notified that any practice as, or holding herself out as a licensed nurse during the terms of this summary suspension is a violation of SDCL § 36-9-68.

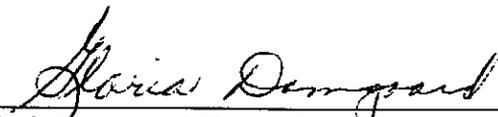
Dated this 18th day of February, 2004.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING



Gloria Damgaard, Executive Secretary

The South Dakota Board of Nursing special meeting held by previously noticed conference telephone call on the 16th day of February, 2004, approved the attached Order as follows: It is hereby ordered that the above Order and Notice of Examination is adopted as shown herein by the South Dakota Board of Nursing on this 16th day of February, 2004, by a vote of 6-0.



Gloria Damgaard, Executive Secretary