SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS

RE: MARY ELLEN HUDSON, LPN

License No. P010566

Licensee.

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Hudson, ("Licensee"), holds a license to practice as a practical nurse in the State of South Dakota and holds license number P010566; and

WHEREAS, while working at a long term care facility in January 2015, Licensee was alleged to have falsified documentation by signing off on tube feedings and medications that were not given; and

WHEREAS, Licensee’s conduct as stated would be inconsistent with the health or safety of persons entrusted to her care and violates the rules and statutes regulating the practice of nursing and is in violation of SDCL § 36-9-49 (5), (7), and (10); and

WHEREAS, the Licensee recognizes that these matters are of a nature which would constitute grounds for the discipline of her license to practice nursing in South Dakota under SDCL §36-9-49; and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Board of Nursing ("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

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WHEREAS, the Board has recommended that the Licensee’s license be placed on probation with remediation in an effort to resolve this matter without the necessity of additional formal disciplinary proceedings and hearings; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Stipulation to provide for a settlement of the licensing issues presented by the Licensee’s conduct, in a professional manner, without the necessity of further hearings and proceedings herein, and to provide for a responsible solution; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Licensee and the subject matter of this Stipulation.

2. That while working at a long term care facility in January 2015, Licensee was alleged to have falsified documentation by signing off on tube feedings and medications that were not given. Licensee agrees her conduct violates SDCL 36-9-49 (5), (7) and (10), in that such conduct would be inconsistent with the health and safety of persons entrusted to her care and would violate provisions of the rules and statutes regulating the practice of nursing.

3. The Licensee has been given an opportunity to discuss this Stipulation with an attorney of Licensee’s choice, and is aware of Licensee’s right to a hearing in this matter, and of all rights under the United States and South Dakota Constitutions, laws, rules and/or regulations. Licensee hereby voluntarily waives all such rights to a hearing, notice, appearance, or any other rights under said Constitutions, laws, rules and/or regulations. Licensee is entering into this Stipulation voluntarily and without duress or compulsion.
4. That from the date this Stipulation is approved by the Board, Licensee’s license to practice nursing is placed upon a probationary status. The probationary terms and conditions set forth below by the Board shall be completely followed by the Licensee.

**CONDITIONS:**

1. Licensee shall at any time during the period of probation, report in person to such meetings of the Board or to its designated representatives as directed and otherwise fully cooperate with the Board or its representatives in the terms of this probation.

2. Licensee shall pay for all costs and expenses in carrying out any conditions of the probation.

3. Licensee shall provide quarterly reports to the Board from her worksite monitor, the Director of Nursing, and a self-report.

4. Licensee shall complete learning modules on: Administering Medications to the Elderly, Parts I and II. Licensee is responsible to purchase and complete these modules and return them to the Board office with a successful certificate of completion within 60 days or by June 26, 2015. The Licensee can register for these modules at the following website: RN.com.

5. Within ten (10) days of the effective date of the order, Licensee shall submit her current renewal certificate to the Board office to be stamped “PROBATION”.

6. During the term of this probation, the Licensee is to immediately inform the Board of the outcome of any criminal charges presently or hereafter pending against the Licensee, and whether the Licensee has been convicted, pled no contest, *nolo contendere*, pled guilty to or been granted a deferred judgment or adjudication, suspended imposition of sentence
with respect to a felony, misdemeanor or petty offense, other than minor traffic violations, that have not previously been reported to the Board.

7. Notwithstanding anything in this Stipulation and Order to the contrary, should the Licensee be convicted of a felony, which would be grounds for discipline under SDCL § 36-9-49, either relating to the allegations which led to this probation or to any other actions or omissions of the Licensee, the Licensee agrees that the Board may take further action against Licensee’s license, including, but not limited to immediate suspension. Licensee agrees to immediately inform the Board of the outcome of any criminal charges presently or hereafter pending against Licensee.

8. If Licensee violates any terms of this probation, the Licensee agrees that the Board may take such actions against Licensee’s license, as the Board deems necessary, up to and including an immediate suspension, additional probation terms, revocation or other disciplinary action.

9. If Licensee obtains a license issued solely or under joint regulatory powers by the Board, other than the license to which this Stipulation refers, at any time during the period of the probation, the terms of this probation shall apply to the other or additional license(s) issued by the Board.

10. Licensee shall not violate any law or regulation regarding the practice of nursing.

11. Licensee shall not practice nursing in any state other than South Dakota which is a party state to the Nurse Licensure Compact without prior written authorization from both the
Stipulation and Order for Probation with Remediation
Licensee: Mary Ellen Hudson

Board and the nursing regulatory authority in the party state in which the Licensee desires to practice.

12. This probation also affects Licensee’s privilege to practice in South Dakota should Licensee change her home state under the Nurse Licensure Compact and Licensee’s practice privilege is subject to the same requirement set forth in this Order as her South Dakota license.

NOW, THEREFORE, the foregoing Stipulation is entered into and is respectfully submitted to the Board with the request that the Board adopt its terms as an order of the Board in the above matter.

Dated this 5 day of May, 2015.

[Signature]
Mary Ellen Hudson - License P010566

The South Dakota Board of Nursing at its meeting on April 17, 2015, approved the terms and conditions of this probationary order by a vote of 8-0.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above Stipulation is adopted as an Order of the South Dakota Board of Nursing this 19th day of May, 2015.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

[Signature]
Gloria Damgaard, RN, MS
Executive Director