

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING**

0-0

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS

RE: LINDA A. LOWMAN, RN

License No. R022580

Licensee.

:  
:  
:  
:

**ORDER FOR  
SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND  
NOTICE OF HEARING**

0-0

WHEREAS, Linda A. Lowman, RN, (“Licensee”), is licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the state of South Dakota and holds license number R022580; and

WHEREAS, on or about December 29, 2014, the South Dakota Board of Nursing (“Board”) received a complaint regarding Licensee’s failure to render appropriate assessment and care for a resident who had sustained a fall. In addition, there were allegations that a vial of Lorazepam, med cups labeled with resident room numbers, various medications in cups, five nebulizer treatments with resident room numbers on the vials, several suppositories, and a package of Welchol were found in Licensee’s locker. After receiving the complaint, Board staff began investigating the complaint received; and

WHEREAS, in review of the medical records of said resident, Board staff noted that there was no follow-up charting, no incident report, and no focus charting update for the fall that the resident had sustained the prior evening. There was no evidence that the Licensee went to the resident’s room to assess him after his fall; and

WHEREAS, Winora Robles and Francie Miller conducted an informal meeting with the Licensee at the Board office in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on March 12, 2015; and

WHEREAS, at the informal meeting, the Licensee stated, “When they told me about the fall, I simply blew it off. I never do anything like that. I completely forgot about it. I was going to go back and check on him. I know I did wrong.” During that meeting, when Francie Miller asked the Licensee about the medications found in her locker, Licensee stated, “I didn’t know I had them in there. I think the residents refused them and I put them in my pocket. I don’t have an excuse. I don’t know why I did it”; and

WHEREAS, during the informal meeting, the Licensee also stated, “I shouldn’t have worked in a nursing home. I don’t have the mentality to work there.” At the informal meeting, the Licensee questioned whether she wanted to do patient care anymore or anything that required quick decision making; and

WHEREAS, at the informal meeting, it appeared that the Licensee struggled with answering questions and had a scattered thought process; and

WHEREAS, at that informal meeting, the Licensee signed a Voluntary Refrain from Practice. The Licensee kept repeating, “I’ve never done anything like this before.” She would often pause and say, “What do I want to say? I don’t know”; and

WHEREAS, Licensee’s case was presented to the Board for review and action on April 17, 2015; and

WHEREAS, at that meeting, the Board mandated a psychological evaluation for the Licensee; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2015, the Licensee was sent, by certified mail and regular, first class mail, a letter advising her of the Board’s action and the request for an evaluation.