SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS

RE: SARAH REYNOLDS, L.P.N.
License No. P009761,
Licensee.

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING

WHEREAS, Sarah Reynolds, L.P.N., (“Licensee”), is licensed to practice as a practical nurse in the State of South Dakota and hold license number P009761; and

WHEREAS, on or about April 19, 2006, the South Dakota Board of Nursing (“Board”), after an appearance by the Licensee, granted her L.P.N. licensure with the condition that she participate in the Health Professionals Assistance Program (“HPAP”) for a term of (5) years. Licensee was mandated to HPAP due to her past criminal history and illegal substance abuse.

On or about September 13, 2006, the Licensee was issued a Letter of Concern from the Board for poor compliance with her Board mandated HPAP. This was from a report that had been received on July 10, 2006 showing 16 disciplinary points on the HPAP Point System for Discipline.

On or about November 6, 2006, Licensee’s quarterly HPAP Report again showed marginal compliance under the HPAP Point System for Discipline with 8 points.
The HPAP Report for the quarter ending on or about January 10, 2007, again showed poor compliance by the Licensee with a point score of 22; and

WHEREAS, based upon the above conduct, the Board has concluded that the public health, safety and welfare requires emergency action, in that Licensee’s actions may endanger the health and safety of those who are, or will be, entrusted to her care in the future; and

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

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 on the above, the Board specifically finds that the public health, safety and welfare requires emergency action against Licensee’s license.

3. That based on the above, the Board specifically finds that the Licensee has not observed the terms and conditions set forth in her Participation Agreement with HPAP and that the actions of Licensee endangers the public health, safety and welfare, and imperatively requires emergency action in that Licensee’s may endanger the health and safety of those persons who are or will be entrusted to her care in the future and that these are matters 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, Licensee’s license to practice nursing in South Dakota is hereby summarily suspended. Licensee may petition according to SDCL § 36-9-57 for reinstatement of her license at anytime for “good cause” and upon the completion of all terms and conditions of her participation in HPAP, their evaluation and subsequent clearance. This Order also affects licensee’s privilege to practice in South Dakota. Should licensee change her home state under the Nurse Licensure Compact, then licensee’s practice privilege is subject to the same requirements as set forth in this order as her South Dakota license.

5. That Licensee shall turn in her license to the Board within ten (10) days from the date of this Order and it shall be kept by the Board until further action on this matter.

6. Licensee is hereby notified that any practice of or holding herself out as a practical nurse during the terms of this Order of Summary Suspension is a violation of SDCL § 36-9-68.

The South Board of Nursing at its meeting on the 18th, day of April, 2007, approved this Order of Summary Suspension as written without modifications and issues its Order of Summary Suspension consistent herein as follows:
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above is adopted as an Order of the South Dakota Board of Nursing this 18th day of April, 2007, by a vote of 11-0.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

Gloria Damgaard, Executive Director
NOTICE OF HEARING

The South Dakota Board of Nursing (“Board”) pursuant to SDCL §§ 1-26-16, 1-26-27, and 1-26-29, hereby provides this Notice of Hearing to Sarah Reynolds, LPN, License No. P009761 (“Licensee”) as follows:

1. Hearing on the Order of Summary Suspension will take place before the Board on June 20, 2007, at 3:00 o’clock p.m. at the South Dakota Board of Nursing Office in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

2. This matter is an adversarial proceeding and Licensee has the right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by an attorney. These due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing.

3. Licensee has a right to request that the agency use the Office of Hearing Examiners for this proceeding by giving notice of the request to the Board no later than ten (10) days after the service of this Notice of Hearing on Order of Summary Suspension.

4. A decision issued by the Board after the hearing may be appealed to the circuit court and to the state Supreme Court as provided by law.

Dated this 18th day of April, 2007.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

Gloria Damgaard, Executive Director