SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE PROCEEDINGS

RE: STEVE CRAIG SHORES, R.N., CRNA

License Nos. R-025352,
CRNA License No. 000323

Licensee.

WHEREAS, Steven C. Shores, R.N., CRNA ("Licensee"), is licensed to practice as a Registered Nurse and a Registered Nurse Anesthetist in the State of South Dakota and holds License numbers R-025352 and CRNA 000323; and

WHEREAS, on or about February 24, 2011, while employed as a Nurse Anesthetist in a hospital, the Licensee, obtained a vial of the narcotic sufentanyl from the pharmacy. Thereafter, the Licensee, citing a need for patient pain control, went to the ICU and administered a portion of the narcotic to a post-operative patient causing the patient to respiratory arrest; and

WHEREAS, following the above incident, investigation was commenced and the results were suggestive of the Licensee obtaining and tampering with vials of narcotics from surgical and endoscopic kits housed in the hospital pharmacy and in the hospital surgical department; and
WHEREAS, said Licensee on or about March 7, 2011, made a self-report to the South Dakota Board of Nursing and to his employer, admitting that he diverted narcotics from his employer for his own use while employed as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Licensee admitted that his diversion occurred between October 2010 and February 2011. Licensee tendered his resignation from his employment and has contacted a treatment facility in Montana for drug rehabilitation and counseling. He will begin treatment on or about March 11, 2011, in order to address his current situation. Criminal charges are pending; and

WHEREAS, Licensee has agreed that he will surrender his South Dakota nursing license; and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Board of Nursing ("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, Licensee agrees that the matters under investigation would be of a nature that would constitute grounds for the discipline of his license to practice nursing in South Dakota under SDCL § 36-9-49; and

WHEREAS, the Licensee agrees that he enters into this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order voluntarily and without duress or compulsion, in full understanding of the legal consequences of this document and his rights; therefore,
ITS 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 Voluntary Surrender Consent Order.

2. That on or about February 24, 2011, while employed as a Nurse Anesthetist in a hospital, the Licensee, obtained a vial of the narcotic sufentanyl from the pharmacy. Thereafter, the Licensee, citing a need for patient pain control, went to the ICU and administered a portion of the narcotic to a post-operative patient causing the patient to respiratory arrest. Following the above incident, investigation was commenced and the results were suggestive of the Licensee obtaining and tampering with vials of narcotics from surgical and endoscopic kits housed in the hospital pharmacy and in the hospital surgical department. That the Licensee, on or about March 7, 2011, made a self-report to the South Dakota Board of Nursing and to his employer admitting that he diverted narcotics from his employer for his own use while employed as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Licensee admitted that his diversion occurred between October 2010 and February 2011. Licensee tendered his resignation from his employment and has contacted a treatment facility in Montana for drug rehabilitation and counseling. He will begin treatment on or about March 11, 2011, in order to address his current situation. Criminal charges are pending. He now intends to leave the profession of nursing as a registered nurse and as a registered nurse anesthetist.
3. That the Licensee has been given an opportunity to discuss this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order with an attorney of Licensee’s choice, and is aware of his right to a hearing in this matter, and of his 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 also agrees that the Board’s Executive Secretary or his designee may present this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order to the Board and disclose to the Board all items of his investigation, including, but not limited to, any communications with Licensee.

4. That the Licensee’s license to practice nursing in South Dakota and his privilege to practice nursing pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact shall be surrendered and the Board shall suspend said license for an indefinite period from the date of this Order. Licensee may apply to have his license reinstated for good cause shown.

5. That nothing in this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order should imply that the Licensee shall be reinstated. Licensee recognizes that the reinstatement terms, as well as the requirements for reinstatement, are at the sole discretion of the Board.

6. That if the Licensee requests reinstatement, Licensee has the burden of presenting information showing that Licensee’s license should be reinstated.
7. That it is further stipulated and agreed that this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order is being entered into voluntarily by the Licensee and without threats or coercion and is entered into after the Licensee has been given ample opportunity to consider these matters and to discuss this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order with an attorney of Licensee's choice and that the Licensee has a full understanding of the legal consequences of this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order and of the Licensee's rights to a formal hearing on these matters, which rights are hereby waived by the signing of this Voluntary Surrender Consent Order.

8. This action is reportable discipline and will be published in the Board's newsletter and posted on its web site and reported into the HIPDB and NPDB data banks as required by law.

9. That the Board may enter an Order consistent with the terms of this Stipulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, the foregoing Voluntary Surrender Consent Order 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 23rd day of May, 2011.

Steven C. Shores, R-025352 and CRNA 000323, Licensee
The South Dakota Board of Nursing meeting on the 1st day of May, 2011, approved the attached Voluntary Surrender Consent Order as written) and issued its Order as follows:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above Voluntary Surrender Consent Order is adopted shown herein by the South Dakota Board of Nursing this 1st day of May, 2011, by vote of 8-0.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

[Signature]

Gloria Damgaard, Executive Director
South Dakota Board of Nursing