

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE :
PROCEEDINGS :

RE: STEPHANIE BERNHARDT, RN :
Iowa License No. 124966 :
Nurse Licensure Compact Privilege in SD :

**VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF
PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE
IN SOUTH DAKOTA**

Licensee. :

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WHEREAS, Stephanie Bernhardt, RN (“Licensee”), is licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Iowa, holding license number 124966. Licensee possesses a privilege to practice in the State of South Dakota based on Licensee’s multi-state compact privilege under the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC), SDCL 36-9-98;

WHEREAS, on or about January 22, 2019, the South Dakota Board of Nursing (“Board”) received a complaint that Licensee was being investigated for obtaining possession of controlled substance by theft, including specifically prescription medications, and that Licensee has been subject to disciplinary action in Licensee’s home state of Iowa;

WHEREAS, based on the above, Licensee has agreed that she will surrender her privilege to practice in the State of South Dakota;

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;

WHEREAS, Licensee agrees that the matters under investigation would be of a nature that would constitute grounds for the discipline of her privilege to practice nursing in South Dakota under SDCL § 36-9-98 and 36-9-49 (4) and (6); and

WHEREAS, Licensee agrees that she enters into this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota voluntarily and without duress or compulsion, in full understanding of the legal consequences of this document and her rights.

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 Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota.
2. That on or about January 22, 2019, the South Dakota Board of Nursing ("Board") received a complaint that Licensee was being investigated for obtaining possession of controlled substance by theft, including specifically prescription medications, and that Licensee has been subject to disciplinary action in Licensee's home state of Iowa.
3. Licensee has agreed that she will surrender her privilege to practice in the State of South Dakota.
4. Licensee has been given an opportunity to discuss this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota with an attorney of Licensee's choice, and is aware of her right to a hearing in this matter, and of her 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 Director or her designee may present this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota to the Board and disclose to the Board all items of her investigation, including, but not limited to, any communications with Licensee.

5. That the Licensee's privilege to practice nursing in South Dakota shall be surrendered and the Board shall suspend said privilege for an indefinite period from the date of this Order. Licensee may apply to have her privilege reinstated for good cause shown.

6. Nothing in this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota implies that the Licensee's License shall be reinstated. Licensee recognizes that the reinstatement terms, as well as the requirements for reinstatement, are at the sole discretion of the Board.

7. That if the Licensee requests reinstatement, Licensee has the burden of presenting information showing that good cause exists for Licensee's privilege to be reinstated.

8. That it is further stipulated and agreed that this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota 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 of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota with an attorney of Licensee's choice and that the Licensee has a full understanding of the legal consequences of this Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota 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 of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota.

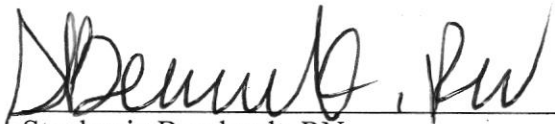
9. Licensee understands that during the period of this Voluntary Surrender that she is ineligible to work in any nursing role in the State of South Dakota.

10 This action is reportable discipline and will be published in the Board's newsletter and posted on its web site and reported into the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) as required by law.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, the foregoing Voluntary Surrender of Privilege to Practice in South Dakota 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 25 day of February, 2019.


Stephanie Bernhardt, RN