

Nevada State Board of NURSING NEWSLETTER

January 2000

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

What Is the Role of the Nursing Board? page 2

Board Must Report Discipline to Feds page 3

What Five Regulatory Trends Mean to Nursing Practice page 4

Disciplinary Actions page 6

November Meeting Highlights page 8

Proposed Regulations page 8

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Governor Names New Board Member

Lopez-Bowlan appointed
and Perkins reappointed

Elena Lopez-Bowlan

Gov. Kenny Guinn appointed Elena Lopez-Bowlan, RN, MS, FNP, to serve as one of the four registered nurse members of the Nevada State Board of Nursing. She will serve a four-year term.

Lopez-Bowlan replaces Janette Corp, RN, whose term expired October 1.

A family nurse practitioner, Lopez-Bowlan has been a registered nurse since 1984. She has a broad range of nursing experience in staff, research and administrative positions. Her experience includes working as clinical staff nurse in a neurology/neurosurgery unit and coordinating a pancreatic tumor-marker study at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco, monitoring clinical drug studies as an independent consultant in San Francisco, coordinating a smoking cessation nicotine patch study at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Reno, and developing an HIV/AIDS educational workshop for Nevada Hispanic Services in Reno.

Lopez-Bowlan, who began her career as a supervisor at a skilled nursing facility, also served as head nurse for San Francisco General Hospital in San Francisco. Currently, she owns her own business, E. Lopez Health Associates, which focuses on health education and research.

Lopez-Bowlan earned her master's of science in nursing, family nurse practitioner degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 1998. While a graduate student, she received the Regent's Award to develop a domestic violence

curriculum for the Orvis School of Nursing. In 1998, the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing named her its outstanding graduate student for academic achievement and leadership, and in 1999, UNR named her outstanding Community Health Sciences alumnae.

Active in the nursing and local community, the newest appointee to the Nevada State Board of Nursing is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the Nevada Nurses Association, Latinos for Political Education, and the Family Violence Prevention Fund. She also served on the 1997/98 State Legislative Health Interim Advisory Committee and on the Nevada Women's Fund. She is the recipient of several honors, including the National Latino Children's Agenda La Promesa Award, several senatorial and congressional awards, and recognition by the Attorney General's office as a Nevada Women's Role Model. In 1997, she received the March of Dimes Judith Seale Special Recognition Nurse of the Year award for volunteerism.

Gov. Guinn also reappointed Dorothy Perkins, the certified nursing assistant member of the board, to a four-year term. Perkins, who has worked as a nursing assistant for the Clark County Health District for almost a

Dorothy Perkins

quarter of a century, was appointed in 1998 by Gov. Bob Miller to serve the remaining year of Eleanor Zamora's term. Zamora resigned after moving to California.

The seven-member board consists of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant, and one consumer member. They are appointed by the governor to four-year voluntary terms.

The Role Of The Nursing Board

Confusion often exists about who does what when it comes to nursing

BOARD MEMBERS AND TERM DATES

Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN, President (Zephyr Cove) Oct 2000

Tana Wisniewski, RN Vice President (Las Vegas) Oct 2000

Patricia Shutt, LPN Secretary (Las Vegas) Oct 2001

Tamara Barengo Consumer Member (Reno) Oct 2001

Elena Lopez-Bowlan, MS, RN, FNP (Reno) Oct 2003

Dorothy Perkins, CNA (Las Vegas) Oct 2003

Kathleen Reynolds, RN, BHS, ABQAURP (Reno) Oct 2000

NURSING NEWSLETTER

The Nevada State Board of Nursing Newsletter publishes news and information about Board actions, regulations, and activities. Articles may be reprinted without permission; attribution is appreciated.

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Cindy Kimball, Editor**

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■ **THE BOARD IS** a governmental body responsible for protecting the public.

■ **THE BOARD IS NOT** a membership organization for nurses. Such organizations are responsible for protecting the profession of nursing.

■ **THE BOARD IS** responsible for enforcing the law regulating the practice of nursing, the Nevada *Nurse Practice Act* (Chapter 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes). You can read the law by visiting the Board's web site or buying a copy of the Nurse Practice Act from the Board (see page 4).

■ **THE BOARD CANNOT** independently change the law. Only the Nevada State Legislature can make changes. For a list of state senators and assemblymen, visit the legislature's web site at www.leg.state.nv.us, or call the legislature at 1-800-992-0973.

■ **THE BOARD IS** responsible for adopting regulations which establish minimum legal standards for safe practice and clarify or explain all parts of the law.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT** make or change regulations in secret. It is a public process that includes initial research and discussion by a Board advisory committee, Board review, a public workshop, a public hearing, a review of the proposed rules by the Legislative Counsel Bureau, and a final review by the Legislative Commission.

■ **THE BOARD REGULATES** the scope of nursing practice as defined in law of all registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, advanced practice nurses, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and certified nursing assistants.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT REGULATE** conditions of employment, such as hiring and firing, shift assignment, or discipline imposed by an employer.

■ **THE BOARD MAY** take disciplinary action on a nurse's license or a nursing assistant's certificate in response to violations of the law.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT** take any disciplinary action without an investigation of all facts involved in the case. Nurses and nursing assistants charged by the Board are entitled to a hearing and may hire an attorney to represent them.

■ **THE BOARD REGULATES** the practice of individual licensed nurses and certified nursing assistants in all practice settings.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT REGULATE** hospitals, nursing homes, home care organizations, nor any other health care facility which may employ licensed nurses or certified nursing assistants. The state's Board of Health has jurisdiction over health care facilities, through its Bureau of Licensure and Certification. If you wish to file a complaint against a health facility, call the bureau at 775-687-4475 (Carson City) or 702-486-6515 (Las Vegas).

■ **THE BOARD REGULATES** the delegation of nursing tasks by licensed nurses.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT REGULATE** delegation by licensed physicians. Physicians are regulated by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners.

■ **THE BOARD REQUIRES** nurses take 30 hours of continuing education for license renewal and approves continuing education providers.

■ **THE BOARD DOES NOT** maintain a list of every continuing education course offered in Nevada.

Board Must Report Discipline To Feds

Federal law requires reporting of discipline actions to new national database

The federal government recently passed regulations that require all federal and state government agencies, including licensing boards, to report certain final adverse actions taken against health care providers, suppliers and practitioners.

Under the new regulations, the Nevada State Board of Nursing is now required to report all final discipline actions against nurses and nursing assistants to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB) and the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB). According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996* directed the department to create the HIPDB to combat fraud and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery.

Those able to access the HIPDB include health care practitioners, providers, and suppliers (self-query only); federal and state government agencies; health plans; and researchers (statistical data only). NPDB can be accessed by those mentioned above, plus hospitals and other health care entities and peer review organizations.

If you have any questions regarding the HIPDB or NPDB, please call the federal government's Helpline at 1-800-767-6732 or visit its web site at www.npdb-hipdb.com.

HIPDB information includes:

- Final discipline actions by federal or state agencies responsible for the licensing and certification of health care providers, suppliers, or practitioners
- Federal or state criminal convictions against health care providers, suppliers, or practitioners related to the delivery of health care items or services
- Civil judgments against health care providers, suppliers, or practitioners in federal or state courts related to the delivery of health care items or services.
- Exclusion of health care providers, suppliers, or practitioners from participation in federal or state health care programs
- Any other adjudicated actions or decisions that the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services establishes by regulation

Reno 688-2620 or Toll-Free 1-800-746-3980

A Zip Code Change Is An Address Change

You're required by law to inform the Board, in writing, of any address change, including a zip code change. You may call the Board and request an address change form, or mail a signed letter to the Las Vegas office including your name, license or certificate type and number, former address, current address, social security number, and date of birth.

It's An Empty Threat

Employers cannot "take your license"

How many times have you heard that a facility can "take your license"? Your license is your right to work as a nurse in the state of Nevada. The Board of Nursing grants you that right after you meet certain requirements and is the only agency with the authority to remove your license through suspension or revocation.

Facilities and employers do not have the authority to "take" your license.

If you have any questions regarding your right to your license, please call the Reno office.

staff nurses

charge nurses

clinical nurse specialists

clinical nurse managers

preceptors

The NCLEX® Examination Depends On You!

You may qualify to participate on an NCLEX examination item development panel. To learn more, go to the National Council's web site at www.ncsbn.org, click *NCLEX Examination*, then *Developing the NCLEX Examination*, then *Item Development Application*. If you don't have web access, call 312-787-6555, ext. 496 and leave a message with your name, address and phone number.



NCSBN Appointment

Board president named to committee

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing recently named Nevada State Board of Nursing President Cookie Bible to its national practice and education committee.

COME TALK TO THE BOARD

During each regularly scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing (see page 6 for dates), Board members hold Open Forum for people to talk to them on nursing-related issues.

If you want to speak during Open Forum, please call Beverly Finley in the Reno office at least two weeks before the meeting for detailed information. Open Forum time is divided equally among those who wish to speak.

WE'LL COME TALK TO YOU

Board staff will come speak to your organization on a range of nursing-related topics, including delegation, the impaired nurse, licensure and discipline processes, and the Nurse Practice Act.

Call the Reno office if you're interested in having us come speak to your organization.

**NURSE PRACTICE ACT—
YOU CAN CARRY IT**

The Nevada Nurse Practice Act comes in a convenient carrying size. The 5-1/2" by 8-1/2" booklet is just \$5 if you buy it at the Reno or Las Vegas office, and \$8 by mail (make check or money order payable to the Nevada State Board of Nursing).

AND YOU CAN ACCESS IT

The Board's web site now has a link to the state laws and regulations which make up the Nurse Practice Act.

What Five Regulatory Trends Mean to Nursing Practice

by Carolyn Hutcherson, RN, MS
Vickie R. Sheets, RN, JD
Susan H. Williamson, RN, MPH

Here's a review of the changes in nursing practice currently under discussion



Mutual Recognition

In August 1997, state boards of nursing endorsed a mutual recognition model of nursing regulation. Under this concept, a nurse holds a license in one state but is free to practice in another state, provided she follows each state's laws and regulations. She also can practice across state lines, either physically or electronically (unless practice is restricted by disciplinary action or a monitoring agreement). And she'd have only one licensing record and license.

For this model to work, boards will need to share data and deal with discipline and confidentiality issues. They've already agreed on an interstate compact as the best means for implementation.

The future—The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) will continue developing implementation plans for the mutual recognition model for nursing regulation. In December 1998, the NCSBN delegates agreed to recommend that states adopting the interstate compact include an implementation date no earlier than January 1, 2000. (Introduction of language to state legislatures started in 1999. Since then, six states have passed the interstate compact—Arkansas, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin.)



Assistive Personnel

Appropriately educated and supervised assistive personnel help provide cost-effective, quality patient care. To delegate effec-

tively, specific patient needs and the assistant's competencies need to be evaluated. What's more, inappropriate delegation and unsafe patient situations, including conflicts between employer policy and the corresponding state Nurse Practice Act need to be recognized.

The future—Various stakeholders, including nurses, educators, assistive personnel, and consumers, need to cooperate to identify needs and clarify expectations about the use of assistive personnel. Guidelines and tools to help nurses work effectively with assistive personnel need to be updated to reflect the current health care environment.

As for formalizing education, one approach is to develop private testing and certification programs to be used by employers for staff development. Another approach, already implemented in long-term and home health care, is to

regulate assistive personnel through registries or other means. Boards of nursing would then have the authority to halt or limit the work of assistive personnel who violate standards of care.



Continued Competence

In 1997, the NCSBN developed an approach to regulating continued competence, incorporating a definition and standards for competence. The process calls for the individual nurse to be accountable for her ongoing competence by applying the nursing process (assess, plan, implement, evaluate) to her current practice. The nurse can draw on existing mechanisms in this process, such as courses or assessments from her employer, certifying body, continuing-education provider, and board of nursing.

This approach acknowledges that

■ ensuring continued competence is complicated in a profession with varying scopes of practice, education levels, and practice settings

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) through which boards regulate and act on matters affecting public health, including the development of standards for nursing. The lead in nursing regulation boards promote safe, eff

■evaluating a nurse's competence should be positive and proactive, not punitive.

■accountability begins with students laying a foundation of values and self-expectations, which includes knowing their limits and strengths

■half of what nurses know becomes obsolete in two years, and half of the technology they use is outdated within months, so every nurse needs to be a lifelong learner

■every nurse controls his or her professional development and growth

■because adult learning needs, styles, and strategies vary, so should learning opportunities

Council of State Boards of Nursing is the organization of nursing deliberators of common interest at safety, and welfare, in the field of licensure examination. NCSBN's mission is to improve nursing practice.

The future—A nurse's ability to demonstrate continued competence at various points in his or her career is becoming increasingly important.

Regulators will need to create and improve the assessment tools required for regula-

tion to give consumers confidence that their health care providers are currently safe and competent. Nurses will need to show evidence that they've recently assessed their own competence, made and carried out learning plans to increase their competence, and evaluated their progress. Methods for doing this don't have to be the same for every nurse, but employers and boards of nursing may need to see periodic evidence that each nurse has engaged in the process.

4 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

One dilemma lies in the variation in Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) requirements and autonomy from state to state. Each state's regulations were developed within the medical, nursing, and regulatory framework for that state. APRNs generally are required to collaborate with a physician, and physician supervision is required in some states. In many states, national certification is a component of legal recognition.

Because APRN practice is beyond the scope of RN practice according to most state laws, APRNs with autonomous practice and privileges will need state authorization above and beyond their RN license. Although this may or may not be a separate APRN license, only additional state authorization forms a firm legal basis for the full scope of APRN practice.

The future—Resolving the variation in state licensure requirements is important. For the near future, the focus will be on collaboration between the NCSBN and the advanced practice professional organizations to develop uniform licensure requirements. The requirements include areas such as education, certification, and prescriptive privileges.

5 Delegation

A state's Nurse Practice Act provides the legal authority for nursing practice, including delegation. The practice acts typically have specific language addressing responsibilities nurses can delegate to other nurses and to assistive personnel; nursing administrative rules provide further guidance. Many boards of nursing (including Nevada's) also have provided practical tools such as decision trees or delegation checklists for use by nurses facing decisions about delegating on the job.

The future—Most health care policy experts believe that care will increasingly be delivered by teams of diverse professionals and assistants. Delegation will continue to be a valued aspect of nursing practice as nurses are called on to supervise various health care workers.

About The Authors

Carolyn Hutcherson is a former senior policy advisor at the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Chicago; Vickie R. Sheets is currently NCSBN director for practice and accountability; and Susan H. Williamson is a former NCSBN director of credentialing and practice.

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www.springnet.com.

FREE LANGUAGE BANK SERVICES

If language barriers are preventing you from understanding your patient, there's a place you can call for help. The Northern Nevada Language Bank provides free interpreter and translation services for Nevada residents and foreign visitors unable to communicate in English during situations affecting their safety and well being. Just dial 775-323-0500 and explain your language problem. An answering service operator will connect you with a volunteer who speaks the necessary language. Due to funding limitations, the service is currently only available during regular business hours.

Disciplinary Actions

BOARD MEETINGS

A seven-member board appointed by the governor, the Nevada State Board of Nursing consists of four registered nurses, one practical nurse, one certified nursing assistant and one consumer member. Its meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's web site and at community sites.

Board Meeting Dates

January 20-21
Las Vegas

March 23-24
Reno

May 18-19
Las Vegas

July 19-21 (Retreat)
Minden-Gardnerville

September 7-8
Las Vegas

November 16-17
Reno

Before disciplinary action is taken, the Board ensures the nurse or nursing assistant is given due process

If the Nevada State Board of Nursing receives information that a nurse or nursing assistant may have broken the law (the Nevada Nurse Practice Act), the Board has the authority to investigate.

It will only investigate if the complaint is received in writing, names a nurse or nursing assistant who is licensed or certified in the state of Nevada, is signed by the person making the complaint, and alleges a violation of the Nurse Practice Act.

Before disciplinary action is taken, the Board ensures the nurse or nursing assistant is given due process, which requires giving adequate notice, a description of the charges, and a hearing or the opportunity for a hearing.

The individual also has the right to a formal hearing, the right to an attorney, the right to not participate in an informal hearing, the right to not sign anything, the right to see the complaint, and the right to appeal.

If the evidence doesn't support the allegations, the complaint may be dismissed or closed. If the evidence does support the allegations, the Board can take disciplinary action against the individual.

Disciplinary action can include denial, reprimand, fine, suspension, probation, or revocation of a license or certificate. The Board considers each case individually.

The disciplinary penalty is determined based on a number of factors which include the severity and recency of the offense, degree of deviation from standard practice, evidence of rehabilitation, current ability to practice safely, mitigating factors, and past disciplinary history.

The law gives the Board nondisciplinary options, including a very successful program which allows qualified, chemically dependent nurses and nursing assistants to re-enter the workforce in a paced sequence. It also monitors their recovery to ensure the safety of patients.

The following are disciplinary actions taken by the Board for the period of May 15, 1999 through September 17, 1999.

Banghulot, Jimmy, LPN8111
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (25) failing to document and report significant changes to the appropriate person.
Barber, Janeice, RN22686
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen at work and (18) drug diversion.
Beaumont, Denise, RN31676
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen at work.
Bhim, Kathleen, CNA9006
Voluntary Surrender in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NRS 632.320 (2) felony convictions accepted.
Brand, Felice Morris, LPN10601
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NAC 632.890 (27) customary standards and (28) causing a patient physical, mental or emotional harm by taking direct or indirect actions or failing to take appropriate actions.
Brannum, Cindy, RN23138
Public reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct.
Broderick, Keiron, RN25779
Revoked for five years for violation of NRS 632.320 (12) disciplinary action in another state.
Brooks, Carol, RN28941
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (18) drug diversion.
Brown, Katrina, CNA4292
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent application.
Burnes, Bernadette, RN32389
Agreement for Reprimand and

Fine in the amount of \$200 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.
Byas, Queenie, LPN10668
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (2) practicing beyond scope.
Campbell, Marissa, RN32212
Public reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct
Cheshire, Janet, CNA4389
Voluntary Surrender of Certificate in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NRS 632.320 (1) fraud or deceit in attempting to procure a certificate.
Chinn, Michael, CNA2409
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen at work.
Clipp, Vicki, RN29406
Agreement for Disciplinary Probation for 2 years for Violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering records accepted.
Cromwell, Harley, LPN10904
Agreement for Fine in the amount of \$100 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.
Culpepper, Charles, RN Applicant
Application and Agreement for Disciplinary Probation accepted for violation of NRS 632.320 (12) discipline in another state.
Delise, Darlene, LPN10563
Revoked for 5 years for violation of NRS 632.320 (11) falsified information given to a pharmacist to obtain a controlled substance.
Ebert, Dana, RN32444
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen while practicing nursing and (18) drug diversion.
Enright, Thomas, RN25335
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (16) failing to document properly the administration of a controlled substance and (21) obtaining, possessing, furnishing or administering

prescription drugs to any person, including himself, except as directed by a person authorized by law to prescribe drugs.

Faz, Kimberly, LPN8332
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering or destroying records.

Foland, Linda, RN Applicant
Application accepted and Board Order for Disciplinary Probation for one year or until criminal probation completed based on NRS 632.320 (2) conviction.

Gonzalez, Danette, CNA6488

Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering records accepted.

Goodman-Seneni, Wendy, LPN9633
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering or destroying records.

Glunz, Janet, RN19271
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NRS 632.320 (11) falsifying information given to a pharmacist to obtain a controlled substance.

Guba, Patricia, LPN9088

Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct.

Harris, Raymond, RN31649
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (7) failure to supervise and (25) failure to observe, record, and report significant changes to the appropriate persons.

Hepler, Corie, RN28118
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (2) practicing beyond scope.

Husbands, Mary, LPN6910
Revoked for 2 years for violation of NRS 632.320 (14) violation of a Board order.

Jain, Manish, CNA11130

Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering records.

Jefferson, Geneva, CNA6599
Revoked for 2 years for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct.

Jensen, Linda, LPN6954
Public reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (14) violation of Board order.

Johnson, Barbara, LPN8835
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent application.

Joiner, Marion, RN21144
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct and NAC 632.890 (27) customary standards.

Kastel, Daniel, CNA2982
Agreement for Reprimand and Fine in the amount of \$100 for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) inaccurate recording, falsifying or otherwise altering records.

Kellner, Patricia, CNA6494
Revoked for 5 years for violation of NRS 632.320 (2) felony convictions.

Knopick, Richard, LPN10842
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (25) failure to observe, record, and report significant changes to the appropriate persons.

Leon, Alice, LPN8136
Agreement for Fine in the amount of \$100 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.

Lero, Raul, LPN9147
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NAC 632.890 (28) causing a patient physical harm by failing to take appropriate actions.

Lim, Thelma, RN27822
Ordered Disciplinary Probation for 2 years for violation of NAC 632.890 (28) causing a patient physical, mental or emotional harm by taking direct or indirect action.

Marlin, Neil, RN22181
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen while practicing nursing.

Monahan, Marsala, CNA10075
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NRS 632.320 (1)

fraudulent application.
Moore, Helen, RN19679
Ordered Disciplinary Probation for 1 year for violation of NAC 632.890 (27) customary standards.

Moton-Kornegay, Annie, RN Applicant
Application denied for violation of NRS 632.320 (7) unprofessional conduct and NAC 632.890 (11) positive pre-employment drug screen.

Nelson, Thomas, CNA8525
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (20) falsifying records.

Orput, Jill, RN Applicant
Application denied for violation of NRS 632.320 (1) fraudulent application.

Pallmann-Judge, Sally, CNA8364
Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NAC 632.890 (2) practicing beyond scope and (28) causing a patient physical harm.

Revelle, Maureen, LPN5703
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen while practicing.

Richards, Julie, RN26993, APN309
Agreement for Fine in the amount of \$100 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a certificate.

Sanchez, Genoveva, LPN9808
Agreement for Reprimand for violation of NAC 632.890 (22) patient abandonment.

Shelton, Jackie, RN Applicant
Application denied for violation of NRS 632.320 (2) felony conviction.

Sprague, Mark, RN31793
Voluntary Surrender of License in Lieu of Other Disciplinary Action for violation of NAC 632.890 (10) positive drug screen at work.

Stewart, Joni, LPN10787
Agreement for Reprimand and Fine in the amount of \$4,400 for violation of NAC 632.890 (36) practicing without a license.

Stillings, Kathleen, CNA11685
Ordered Disciplinary Probation

for 2 years for violation of NAC 632.890 (23) exploitation of a patient.

Watkins, Ora, CNA8586
Revoked for 2 years for violation of NRS 632.320 (2) felony convictions.

Wilson, Kathryn, RN17065
Application for Reinstatement accepted; Agreement for Probation (Disciplinary) for violation of NAC 632.890 (9) impaired practice accepted.

Questions? Call Debra Scott, associate executive director for nursing practice, in Reno. For information about filing a complaint, call the Reno office or go to the consumer section of the Board's web site.

It's Confidential

If the Board of Nursing is conducting an investigation, either as a result of a complaint or the information on your application, the fact that the investigation is taking place is confidential. We cannot release any information to your employer, family members or friends. If you wish to know the status of the investigation, please call us yourself.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Nevada State Board of Nursing is advised by and appoints members to seven standing advisory committees. Committee meetings are open to the public; agendas are posted on the Board's web site and at community sites. If you are interested in applying for appointment to fill an upcoming opening, please visit the Board's web site or call the Reno office for an application.

MEETINGS AND OPENINGS

The openings (listed in parentheses) will occur in the next six months.

Advanced Practice Advisory Committee (five)
January 24, 2000

CNA Advisory Committee (three—one long-term care RN, one acute care RN, one RN)
February 16, 2000

Disability Advisory Committee (four)
April 21, 2000

Nursing Competency Advisory Committee (four)
February 2, 2000

Nursing Practice Advisory Committee (five)
January 12, 2000

Contact

Nevada State
Board of Nursing

ADMINISTRATION, DISCIPLINE AND INVESTIGATION

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govmail.state.nv.us

LICENSURE, CERTIFICA- TION, RENEWAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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fax - 702-486-5803
email - nsbnlv@
govmail.state.nv.us

WORLD WIDE WEB

nursingboard.state.nv.us

November Meeting Highlights

Board elects new officers

At its November meeting, the Board elected officers for the year 2000. Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN was re-elected president; Tana Wisniewski, RN, was elected vice president; and Patricia Shutt, LPN, was re-elected secretary.

Cath lab RNs may insert collagen plug

Upon the recommendation of its Nursing Practice Advisory Committee, the Board approved a practice decision allowing registered nurses working in a cardiac catheterization laboratory to insert a collagen plug to achieve vascular hemostasis after intravascular catheterization and/or intervention. The nurses must complete appropriate training and demonstrate competency to deploy collagen plug vascular procedures as defined by the institution's policies and procedures and with a direct physician order.

Advisory committee member Mary Bryant, RN, led the research on the issue, which the committee began exploring last year at the request of nurses working in catheterization laboratories. She told the Board that although it is a new procedure, its use is rising because it increases patient comfort. With this decision, Nevada becomes the third state to allow RNs to deploy collagen plugs, joining Kentucky and Arkansas.

Copies of this decision were mailed to Nevada directors of nursing and nurse executives. If you have questions, please call the Reno office.

Revised CNA Model Curriculum
includes pulse oximetry

The Board approved a revised CNA Model Curriculum which includes a new provision allowing nursing assistants to place pulse oximetry probes and report/record that information to a licensed nurse.

The Board's CNA Advisory Committee spent more than a year making revisions to the curriculum, which outlines the CNA's scope of practice and is used to train nursing assistants.

After interviewing representatives from long-term and acute care facilities, home health agencies, and hospices, the committee decided to include pulse oximetry in the model curriculum. Committee member Cheryl Lloyd, RN, told the Board that the committee "made a clear distinction between the data collecting and reporting role of the CNA and the assessment role of the RN who acts upon the data."

The revised CNA Model Curriculum will be distributed to CNA training programs, instructors, and academic administrators early in the new year. If you have any questions, please call Patricia O'Rourke-Langston in the Las Vegas office.

Workshop, Hearing On Proposed Regs

Proposed revisions to implement the 1999 legislative changes to Nevada's nursing law will be discussed at a public workshop in February 2000, and at a hearing during the Board's March 23-24 regular meeting. The proposed revisions concern nursing education and CNA training. For a copy, visit the Board's web site or call the Reno office.

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