

September 18, 2000

A. Anthony Tarver, M.D.
Director of Medical Services
Louisiana State Penitentiary
Angola, LA 70712

Dear Dr. Tarver:

Pursuant to your request regarding scope of practice for an ACLS certified registered nurse, who is running a code on a patient relinquishing the care of the patient to an ACLS certified EMT-Paramedic for relocation of the patient prior to physician involvement, your request was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on July 25, 2000. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on September 13, 2000, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.3, that in a situation where a patient is under the care of a registered nurse when the patient has an emergency, such as an arrest or code situation, that the patient remain under the care of the registered nurse until the physician gives a direct order to alter the plan of care.

The Board expressed their appreciation for your attendance at the Committee meeting to answer their questions.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

BLM:PAL

cc: file

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