

# Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Ellen T. Kyle, R.N.  
President

MISS MERLYN M. MAILLIAN, R.N.  
Executive Director

907 Pere Marquette Building  
150 Baronne Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112  
568-5464

May 6, 1981

Ms. Janet Schwaner, R. N.  
4109 Lake Villa Drive  
Metairie, La. 70002

Dear Ms. Schwaner:

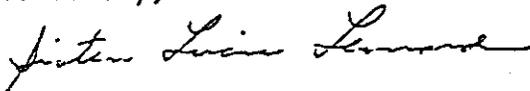
This is to inform you of the action of the Board of Nursing relative to your question about the legality of your functions as a "1st assistant" in surgery. The Board's statement follows:

Retracting, suctioning, tying and cutting sutures are within the realm of nursing when competency to do so is achieved and maintained.

Please note that the Board addressed the specific functions which you stated are included in your job. The Board's statement is not an endorsement of the position of "1st assistant."

If you have questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sister Lucie Leonard, R. N.  
Nursing Practice Consultant

SLL:imp

*ngp 81.03*