



Celebrate Nurses

National Nurses Week is May 6 – 12. This is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate nurses for the contributions they make to the health care of the citizens of Louisiana. There are over 41,000 Registered Nurses living and working in Louisiana. The Louisiana State Board of Nursing salutes registered nurses this week and every week of the year.

Credentialing Issues

Licensure Renewals

Louisiana has 46,742 Registered Nurses with 41,211 residing in the State. The total number of Registered Nurses increased by 1219 over the number reported in 2004 and the total number of RNs residing in Louisiana increased by 1231 over 2004. The number of RNs under 30 years of age increased from 5,911 in 2004 to 6,336 in 2005. The number of RNs in the state is expected to continue to climb as enrollments in Louisiana nursing programs have increased for the third consecutive year. The number of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses licensed and residing in Louisiana is 2,291, an increase of 168 over 2004.

Re-licensure Audit

The Continuing Education Audit for compliance in 2004 is in progress. One thousand two hundred and eight (1,208) RNs were randomly selected and notifications were sent out March 7, 2005. April 7, 2005 was the deadline for responses. As of April 11, 2005, 938 or 78% of the RNs selected have verified compliance.

Licensees who have not satisfactorily met the audit or falsified the licensure renewal application are subject to have their licenses invalidated and disciplinary action imposed.

REMINDER: Continuing Education is mandatory for licensure renewal. RNs employed full time must have 5 contact hours, those employed at least 160 hours/year must have 10 contact hours and those not employed must have 15 contact hours annually for the renewal of their Louisiana license.

Compliance/Practice Issues

Recovering Nurse Program (RNP)

Q. What is the Recovering Nurse Program?

A. The Recovering Nurse Program is a confidential, voluntary alternative to formal disciplinary action for a Registered nurse who may be impaired due to chemical dependency/abuse or a physical/mental condition.

In this Issue:

- ◆ Credentialing Issues
 - ◆ Licensure Renewals 2005
 - ◆ Re-licensure Audit
- ◆ Compliance/Practice Issues
 - ◆ Recovering Nurse Program
 - ◆ Disciplinary Actions of the March 16, 2005 Board Meeting
- ◆ Educational Issues
 - ◆ Out-of-State Based Programs in Louisiana
 - ◆ Criminal Background History on Nursing Students
 - ◆ Preparing Candidates for RN and/or APRN Licensure
 - ◆ NCLEX-RN Pass Rates for 2005
- ◆ Major Actions of the March 16, 2005 Board Meeting
- ◆ Questions on Online Accounts and Services
- ◆ Board Meeting Dates
- ◆ Committee Meeting Dates
- ◆ State Holidays

Recovering Nurse Program (Cont...)

The Nurse Practice Act (L.R.S. 37:911-933) provides that alternatives to disciplinary action may be established. L.R.S. 37:922 (Sec. E) reads in part: "The Board, in its discretion, may maintain the confidentiality of an individual registered nurse who violates a provision of this Part whenever the Board determines the public interest will be best served by alternatives to the disciplinary process".

Q. What does RNP provide?

A. The RNP provides on-going monitoring of the chemically dependent, the physically impaired and the mentally impaired nurse, which is necessary to ensure public safety. This monitoring begins when the impairment is identified, proceeds through the treatment process and continues through the recovery period for as long as necessary.

Q. How can a nurse be referred to the Recovering Nurse Program?

A. Nurses may refer themselves to the RNP. Employers, colleagues, family or friends may refer nurses to the program. Nurses may be ordered into the program by the Board (non-confidential).

Whatever the source of the referral, most important is early intervention. The earlier in the disease process that a nurse receives treatment, the greater the chance of success for the nurse, and the less likely it is that a patient will be harmed by an impaired practitioner.

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Recovering Nurse Program (Cont...)

A nurse who is believed to be practicing nursing while impaired should be reported to the Recovering Nurse Program. A nurse who fails to report a nurse believed to be practicing while impaired is guilty of aiding and abetting the violation of the nurse practice act. (L.R.S. 37:921 (5) L.R.S. 37:931 provides civil immunity. "A. There shall be no civil liability and no licensee or other individual shall have a cause of action or a claim for damages against any person or institution providing information to the Board, its members, officers, designated agents, representatives, or employees, where the individual or institution acts without malice and in the reasonable belief that such information is accurate".

Contact the Recovering Nurse Program if you:

- ◆ Want to refer an impaired nurse
- ◆ Have questions about RNP
- ◆ Would like more information.

504 838-5376

stormc@lsbn.state.la.us

Disciplinary Actions of the March 2005 Board Meeting

Agosta, Jake Andrew (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/continue in clinical nursing courses with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose.

Aguilar, Noelia Jose (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Alexander, Nora Jacintha (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Anderson, Monica Ann King (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stipulations to complete prior to reinstatement; following, probation for minimum of 2 years with stipulations.
Charges: Drug Diversion-Others

Andres, Barbara Lee Toler (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board order.

Armant-Griffin, Veronica Ann (Consent Order) (Applicant)
Approval granted to retake NCLEX-RN and reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose

Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Armstrong-Scherer, Cherlyn Cookie (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine. Charges: Failure to Disclose Arrest and Failure to Maintain Minimum Standards

Baird, Deborah Nan Odom (Consent Order)
License reinstated to active status and probated for minimum of 4 years with stipulations.

Ballard, Donna Lynn Beach (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal arrest; Failure to Disclose

Barbe, Chad J. (Consent Order) (Student)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine to complete prior to approval for clinical; if approved, additional stipulations to follow.
Charges: Failure to Disclose and Drug Related: Drug Abuse

Beiswanger, Jill (Ratified) (Consent Order)
1/27/05 Summarily suspended license due to positive drug screen
2/15/05 Suspension of license remains with stipulations prior to reinstatement.
Charges: Drug Related: Positive Employee Drug Test

Bivens, Belinda Diann Clark (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in other jurisdiction.

Black, Kimberlee Corianne (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of said suspension, and probated for 36 months with stipulations.
Charges: Narcotic Discrepancies and Improper Documentation.

Blaney, Charon Derral Hamilton (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Consent Order.

Bonomolo-Rivas, GERALYN ANN (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board order.

Bourgeois, Roxanne (Ratified)
Suspended approval to continue in clinical nursing courses and denied approval for licensure due to failure to comply with Board Order.

Bowman, Vickie Joann Watley (Consent Order)
Probation for 12 months with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to Maintain Minimum Standards; Exceeding Scope.

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Brainis, Alyson Lee Ross (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of suspension, and probated with RNP for minimum of five (5) years with stipulations.
Charges: Drug related: Criminal Arrest

Brown, Stanley Calvin (Student) Consent Order
Approved granted to enter clinical nursing courses with stipulations
Charges: Other: Violation State Statutes/Rules

Brossette, Nicole L. Dufrene (Ratified) (Student)
Denied approval for clinical nursing courses and RN licensure due to criminal conviction.

Burge, Debra Ruth Beach (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Bushnell, Jerri Ruth Lineberry (Consent Order)
Voluntary surrender of RN license for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations.

Cappell, Johnny Brian (Consent Order)
Approved to apply for reinstatement after completing stipulations; following, issued a suspended license with stayed suspension and probated for 36 months with stipulations.

Caubarraux, Chris John (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of suspension, and probated for minimum of 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Drug related: Criminal Charges

Ciervo, Loretta Vandegrift (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal Arrest: Failure to Disclose

Clark, Nelda Gail (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in another jurisdiction.

Cook, Tracey Lee (Ratified) (Consent Order)
12/14/04 Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board order.
1/19/05 Suspended license with stay and eligible for reinstatement with probation for a minimum of 1 year with stipulations.

Coughlin, Daniel Anthony (Consent Order)
Granted permission to reinstate license with probation for minimum of 24 months, fine and stipulations.
Charges: Fraud, Deceit: Fraudulent Billing

Creel, James Joseph (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with RNP.

Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Crochet, Cheryl P. (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal arrest; Failure to Disclose

Cross, Mark Anthony (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of suspension, and probated for 4 years with RNP and stipulations.
Charges: Drug Diversion - Self

Cutts, Elisa Ann Ackel (Consent Order) (Applicant)
Approval granted for NCLEX-RN and temporary RN permit with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose

Danos, Justin John (Consent Order) (Student)
Delayed approval to progress in clinical nursing courses until fine and stipulations met, and upon approval, additional fine and stipulations to be completed.
Charges: Positive Urine Drug Screen

Delaughter Jr., Joseph Wade (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay, probated with RNP for minimum 4 years with stipulations.

Delhoste, Mark Edward (Consent Order) (Student)
Approved granted for clinical nursing courses with probation with stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrest

Dillon, Sharon Denise Henderson (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to Disclose Previous Criminal Arrest

Dowdy, Michael Anthony (Applicant) (Ratified)
Denied licensure by endorsement based on having committed the crime of second degree battery.

Duncan, Kary Glen (Consent Order)
Reinstated license to inactive status with stipulations and fine to be met prior to requesting reinstatement.

Duplechain, Michael Timothy (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in another jurisdiction.

Egan, Gaylynn Marie Englade (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of said suspension, probated for 36 months with stipulations.
Charges: Drug Related: Narcotics Discrepancies

Elliott, Patricia Lynne Moore (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Fontenot, Holly Elizabeth (Ratified) (Student)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fines.
Charges: Criminal Arrest; Failure to Disclose

Gerac-Dudley, Jacklin
Suspended license minimum 6 months with stipulations and fine prior to requesting reinstatement.
Charges: Criminal Conviction: felony

Ginn, Katherine Irene Mitchell (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of suspension, probated for minimum of three (3) years with and stipulations.
Charges: Drug Diversion (Self)

Greer, Pamela Sue (Hernandez) (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for a minimum of 1 year with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Drug Related: Positive Drug Screen

Grice, Tamara Nell Duncan (Ratified) (Applicant)
Recall of Temporary Permit

Guidry, Jason Michael (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter, advance or continue in clinical nursing courses with probation with stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrests

Gullung, Courtney Lynn Hogue (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations.
Charges: Failure to Renew

Hackler, April Michelle Brewer (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for 24 months with reprimand and stipulations.
Charges: Other: Failure to Disclose Arrest.

Hagen, John Alan (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/continue in clinical nursing courses with a reprimand and stipulations.
Charges: Prior Arrests; Failure to Disclose Timely

Hall, Heather Alayne (Ratified) (Consent Order)
12/17/04 Summarily suspended license due to narcotic discrepancies.
1/11/05 Suspension remains with the opportunity to request reinstatement with stipulations.

Hanna, Martha Mae Morgan (Consent Order)
Suspended license until stipulations are met; upon reinstatement, will be probated for 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Falsification of Medical Record.

Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Harris, Andrew Paul (Ratified) (Student)
Suspended approval to continue in clinical nursing courses due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Harris, Linc Allen (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in other jurisdiction.

Herring, Tiffiny Carre Taylor (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations.
Charges: Failure to Maintain Minimal Standards and Other: Failure to Document

Hinson III, Albert Franklin (Consent Order)
Eligible for reinstatement to active status with probation for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations.

Hobbs, Christina Rene Thompson (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal Arrest; Failure to Disclose

Hockman, Tina Christine Collins (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for a minimum of 3 years with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Drug Related: Narcotic Discrepancies

Hodges, Simone Givens (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with fine and stipulations.
Charges: Practicing Without a License: Failure to Renew.

Houts, Teresa Marie (Ratified) (Applicant)
Denied approval for licensure by endorsement based on criminal arrest.

Hudson, Stephen Lee (Ratified) (Student)
Delayed approval to enter clinical nursing courses until all pending criminal charges are resolved with stipulations.

Huffman, Linda Ellen McCloud (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to disclose disciplinary action in another jurisdiction.

Hughes, Odie Lee (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to progress to the next clinical course with probation and stipulations.
Charges: Previous Criminal Arrest.

Jackson, Shelia Shenell Leonard (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Practicing Beyond Scope

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Johnson, Martha Aline McLelland (Consent Order)
Suspension of license continues with stipulations and fine to be met prior to requesting reinstatement. Charges: Practicing Without A License, Violating Board Order

Jones, Latoya Trinique (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to continue in clinical nursing courses with probation, stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action

Kay, Roro Quannah (Consent Order) (Student)
Denied approval to take NCLEX-RN, to be issued a temporary work permit or to be licensed until stipulations met; after completion and approval, shall be issued a probated temporary permit; upon successfully passing the NCLEX-RN, shall be issued a suspended license, with stay of suspension with probation for a minimum of 24 months with stipulations.
Charges: Alcohol Abuse and Failure to Disclose

Knapp, Hollie Anne (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/progress to the next clinical nursing course with probation and stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrests: Alcohol Related

Lampkin, Candice Renee McClees (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter clinical nursing courses with probation and stipulations.
Charges: Other: Violating Federal Law/Criminal Conviction

LeBlanc, Tonya Renee Thomas (Settlement Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to Practice Nursing in Accordance with the Legal Standards of Nursing; Incomplete or Improper Documentation; and Failure to Cooperate with the Board in a Timely Manner.

Lombardino, Renee (Consent Order)
Voluntary surrender of RN license for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations.

Lueg, Mark Christian (Settlement Order)
Suspended for a minimum of 6 months with stipulations prior to requesting reinstatement; following reinstatement, license will be probated for 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Failure to Comply with Board Order and for Reinstatement of License.

Lumsden, James Fife (Consent Order) (Student)
Delayed approval to enter, advance or continue in clinical nursing courses until stipulations are met to include RNP; upon approval, to be probated with stipulations. Charges: Chemical Dependency

Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

Mabile, Pamela Kaye Haynes (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay and probated for minimum 2 years with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to Practice Nursing in Accordance with the Standards of Nursing Practice.

Mack, Shundra Lashun Hodge (Consent Order)
License placed on inactive status with stipulations to complete prior requesting reinstatement.
Charges: Violating Board Order.

Mahoney, Jennifer Diane Bryan (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Failure to Maintain Minimum Standards

Maraffi, Charlene K. (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for 12 months with stipulations.
Charges: False Documentation and Failure to Assess

McCauley, James Mervin (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with RNP.

McKay, Wendy Daniele (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations.
Charges: Failure to Practice Nursing in Accordance with the Legal Standards of Nursing Practice; and Failure to Utilize Appropriate Judgment.

Melder, Gregory Allen (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with RNP.

Menard, Sharelle Christine (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Drug Related: Positive drug screen.

Merron, Keith Bryant (Consent Order)
Suspended license with reinstatement contingent on completions of stipulations; upon reinstatement, suspended license with stay and probated for a minimum of 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Misconduct: Physical Abuse

Monk, Vicky Sue Edmiston (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter, advance or continue in with reprimand and fine.
Charges: Failure to Disclose Prior Arrest.

Moore, Marianne Schweitzer (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for 5 years with RNP and stipulations.
Charges: Drug Related: Alcohol Abuse

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

- Neal, Shawane Nicole** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Arrest; Failure to Disclose
- Pate, Ericka Marie Keller** (Consent Order) (Applicant)
Approval granted for NCLEX-RN and temporary RN permit with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose
- Peters, Benjamin Maxwell, Jr.** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Falsification of Renewal Application.
- Powers, Joye Sarelee** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine
Charges: Criminal Arrest; Failure to Disclose
- Prats, Gail Gretchen** (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in other jurisdiction.
- Puckett, Patricia Marie Moreau** (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/progress to the next clinical course/sequence with probation and stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrests
- Riedinger, Robin Renae** (Consent Order)
Suspended license, with stay of said suspension, with probation for 36 months with stipulations.
Charges: Failure to Maintain Minimum Standards
- Rogers, Terracia Monique** (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated with stipulations until criminal actions are resolved.
Charges: Criminal Arrest, pending.
- Schonlau, Martha Karen** (Ratified)
Revoked license due to non-compliance with Board Order.
- Smith, Dawn Lakisha** (Consent Order) (Applicant)
Approval granted for NCLEX-RN, to be issued work permit and licensure upon successful passing of NCLEX with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal Arrest; Failure to Disclose
- Smith, Jonah Stafford** (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to continue/progress to the next clinical course with probation, RNP, and stipulations.
Charges: Drug Abuse
- Smith, Quintin Craig** (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/progress in clinical nursing courses with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose

Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont...)

- Smith, Sterling Ron** (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/progress to the next clinical nursing course/sequence with probation and stipulations.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrests
- Smith, Tina Lynn** (Consent Order)
Reinstated to inactive status with stipulations to be completed prior to requesting active licensure status.
- Stalsby, Charles Curt** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine to be completed prior to requesting; following reinstatement, probation for a minimum of 4 years with stipulations.
Charges: Working without a license.
- Stanton, Joseph Patrick** (Ratified)
Suspended license due to action in other jurisdiction.
- Stelly, Travis Keith** (Consent Order)
Approval granted to enter/advance/continue in clinical nursing courses with probation for a minimum of 1 year with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal Arrest: Alcohol Related
- Steubben, Suzette Marie** (Consent Order) (Student)
Delayed approval to enter/progress to next clinical nursing course/sequence with stipulations are met; after completion and approval to enter/progress in clinical nursing courses, additional stipulations and will apply.
Charges: Prior Criminal Arrest; Chemical Dependency.
- Stevens, Ning Xie** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Falsification of Renewal Application
- Stoll, Pamela Ann** (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Falsification of records.
- Sweeney, Paige Ann** (Consent Order)
Suspended license with stay and probated for 24 months with stipulations and fines.
Charges: Drug Related: Positive Employee Drug Test
- Swinney, Bradley Patrick** (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/continue in clinical nursing courses with reprimand, stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action; Failure to Disclose.

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Compliance/Practice Issues

Disciplinary Actions (Cont. . .)

Tarver, Crissy Ethredge (Ratified) (Consent Order)
1/4/05 Summarily suspended license due to narcotics discrepancies.
2/28/05 Suspension remains with opportunity to request reinstatement with stipulations; if approved, suspension stayed and probated for a minimum of 3 years with stipulations.
Charges: Drug Related: Drug Diversion-Self

Thibeaux, Carmen Michelle (Consent Order) (Student)
Approval granted to enter/continue to the next clinical course/sequence with probation for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Prior Criminal Action

Trahan, Cheryl Ann Folsie (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board order.

Trahan, Doug Anthony (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Criminal Arrest; Failure to Timely Disclose

Trahan, Jeremy Ethan (Ratified)
Summarily suspended license due to criminal arrest.

Varnado, Ronda Nell Sylvest (Consent Order)
Voluntarily surrendered license for a minimum of 2 years with stipulations prior to reinstatement.

Von Almen, Cheryl Elizabeth Patton (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Wagner, Margie Laverne Toler (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with stipulations.
Charges: Action in Another Jurisdiction

Waguespack, Kent Paul (Ratified)
12/29/04 Summarily suspended
3/16/05 Suspension continues with stipulations and fine.
Charges: Narcotic Discrepancies

Walters, Charlene Renee' (Ratified)
Denied reinstatement based on crime of violence.

Wilson, Shanna Sue Graham (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board Order.

Winger, Benjamin Michael Sr. (Ratified)
Suspended license due to non-compliance with Board order.

Yarbrough, John David (Consent Order)
Reprimand issued with fine.
Charges: Action in Another Jurisdiction

Yun, Chong (Consent Order) (Student)
Reprimand issued with fine and stipulations.
Charges: Criminal Arrest: Failure to Disclose

Educational Issues

Out of State Nursing Program

In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:1808, an out of state institution of higher learning may not offer courses in Louisiana unless registered with the Louisiana Board of Regents. This includes students in clinical nursing courses at undergraduate and graduate levels. Further, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing has standards for the clinical practice of students and must approve the nursing program, the clinical practice sites and the students prior to their engaging in clinical practice in Louisiana.

Criminal Background History on Students in Clinical Nursing Courses in Louisiana

Effective August 2005, students admitted to a clinical nursing course in a Louisiana program, or out-of-state program approved for clinical practice in Louisiana, preparing for RN licensure shall file an application to the LSBN and have a criminal background history using fingerprints. The criminal background history will be conducted by the Louisiana State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Criminal background history will continue to be conducted on each graduate prior to licensure.

Preparing Candidates for RN and/or APRN Licensure

Louisiana has Twenty-three (23) nursing programs in twenty institutions preparing candidates for registered nurse (RN) licensure. There are eight programs preparing candidates for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licensure. Of the 23 programs, one awards a diploma in nursing, nine award an associate degree and thirteen award a bachelor's degree. Twenty-two of the 23 undergraduate nursing programs are nationally accredited by either the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The NLNAC accredits associate degree, baccalaureate degree and masters degree programs while the CCNE accredits only baccalaureate and higher degree programs. Two undergraduate programs and one graduate program hold both NLNAC and CCNE accreditation.

The quality of the nursing programs in Louisiana is excellent as documented by the consistently above national average licensure examination passing rates and the leadership roles assumed by the graduates of undergraduate and graduate programs in a variety of health care institutions. Louisiana residents comprise an overwhelming majority of students enrolled in these programs in nursing.

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Educational Issues

NCLEX-RN Pass Rate for 2004

Louisiana had the second highest percentage passing rate among all National Council of State Boards (NCSBN) jurisdictions on the NCLEX-RN examination for 2004. Louisiana has consistently ranked among the top 10% for passing rates for the past ten years. The average pass rate for first time candidates from nursing programs in Louisiana was 90.6% for 2004 while the national average was 85%. The following table presents the passing rate for 2004 by educational institution:

PERFORMANCE OF FIRST TIME CANDIDATES OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN LOUISIANA ON NCLEX-RN, REGARDLESS OF WHERE TAKING EXAMINATION, DURING JANUARY 1, 2004 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

Nursing Programs	Number of Candidates	Number Passing	Percent Passing
Associate Degree			
Charity/Delgado	245	221	90.2
LSU Alexandria	86	85	98.8
LSU Eunice	56	54	96.4
Louisiana Tech	64	59	92.1
McNeese	37	27	72.9
Nicholls	5	5	100.0
Northwestern	46	44	95.6
Our Lady of Lake College	88	72	81.8
Total	627	567	90.4
Diploma			
Baton Rouge General	30	27	90.0
Total	30	27	90.0
Baccalaureate			
Dillard	6	3	50.0
Grambling	28	23	82.1
Louisiana College	13	11	84.6
LSU Health Sciences Center	142	131	92.2
McNeese	56	54	96.4
Nicholls	95	87	91.5
Northwestern	90	85	94.4
Our Lady Holy Cross	43	40	93.0
Southeastern	102	94	92.1
Southern	65	59	90.7
University of LA Lafayette	157	152	96.8
University of LA Monroe	84	67	79.7
William Carey – N. O.	34	25	73.5
Total	915	831	89.2
GRAND TOTAL	1,572	1,425	90.6

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Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Administrative Issues

Accepted the Vice-President's Report and Second Quarter Financial Statement Report for October 1, 2004 – December 31, 2004.

Referred request for promulgation of proposed revisions to Rule LAC 46:XLVII.3703. Definitions of Terms Applying to Nursing Practice and 3705. Administration of Anesthetic Agents back to the Practice Committee for revisions

Approved proposed Rule LAC 46:XLVII.4507. Licensure as Advanced Practice Registered Nurse for promulgation at the next available date when all requirements are met.

Accepted report of proposed Rule LAC 46:XLVII. Chapter 45. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.

Accepted report of Proposed Rule LAC 46:XLVII. Chapter 34. Disciplinary Proceedings; Alternative to Disciplinary Proceedings and **Reworded** last sentence in the definition of Sexual misconduct to read, "Any behavior toward a patient by a nurse that is seductive, sexually demeaning, harassing or reasonably interpreted by a patient or co-worker sexually inappropriate is a violation of the nurse's fiduciary responsibility to the patient .

Accepted report of proposed Rule LAC 46:XLVII.3341. *Fees for Registration and Licensure.*

Reviewed working draft of proposed legislation, "Personal Care Attendants" and asked for responses to be directed to Barbara Morvant, Executive Director by March 18, 2005.

Education Issues

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT and continued full approval of the following programs in nursing preparing candidates for RN licensure:

Diploma Program:

Baton Rouge General Medical Center

Associate Degree Programs:

Delgado Community College/Charity School of

Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Education Issues

Nursing

Louisiana State University at Alexandria

Louisiana State University at Eunice

Louisiana Tech University

Our Lady of the Lake College, Baton Rouge Campus Program

Nicholls State University

Baccalaureate Nursing Programs:

Grambling State University

LSU Health Sciences Center

McNeese State University

Northwestern State University

Our Lady of Holy Cross College

Southeastern Louisiana University

Southern University at Baton Rouge

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT and restored full approval based on an 80% or above pass rate for 2004:

Associate Degree Program:

Northwestern State University

Baccalaureate Degree Program:

Louisiana College

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT and placed the following programs on conditional approval for less than an 80% NCLEX-RN pass rate in 2004:

Associate Degree Program:

McNeese State University

Baccalaureate Degree Program:

Dillard University

University of Louisiana at Monroe

William Carey College

Accepted the ANNUAL REPORT from the following graduate programs preparing candidates for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Licensure and continued full approval status.

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To safeguard the life and health of the citizens of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses are competent and safe.

Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Education Issues (Cont...)

Grambling State University

Family Nurse Practitioner

Louisiana State University Health Science Center

Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Psych/Community Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Nurse Anesthesia—CRNA

Parent/Child Clinical Nurse Specialist

Loyola University

Family Nurse Practitioner

McNeese State University

Adult Health Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Psych/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Psych/Mental Health Clinical Specialist

Northwestern State University

Family Nurse Practitioner

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Nurse Practitioner

Mental Health/Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist

Critical Care Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist

Maternal/Child Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Southeastern Louisiana University

Adult Health Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Psych/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Psych/Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Southern University

Family Nurse Practitioner

Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Education Issues (Cont...)

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Adult Health Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Psych/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Psych/Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Accepted the report of site-visit to Our Lady of The Lake College (OLOLC) School of Nursing accelerated program in New Orleans.

1. Commended OLOLC for their extensive internal review of the program and development of a plan of action.
2. Placed the accelerated program of the OLOLC School of Nursing conducted at the New Orleans campus on conditional approval due to a 67.86% pass rate of its first class of graduates. (LAC 46:XLVII.3523.B)
3. Requested that the OLOLC School of Nursing submit a report on the accelerated program by December 1, 2005 to include:
Documentation of review of program goals to assure that expected competencies can be met in the accelerated format
Assessment of employment performance of the graduates from the first and second classes to assure that the outcomes of the program have been met. (LAC 46:XLVII.3523.7 and 8)
Provide documentation that the full time/part-time/adjunct faculty organization meets the standards for faculty and faculty organization cited in LAC 46:XLVII.3515.G.H.I.J.
Provide data on the action taken in response to the evaluation plan established as a product of their internal review
4. That no other site be considered for the offering of the accelerated curriculum until all standards of the LSBN are met at the New Orleans campus.

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Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Education Issues (Cont...)

Approved sanction of the MSN program at Our Lady of the Lake College School of Nursing and permit continued planning for the Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist program with a report to the Board within 6 months addressing the following:

Updated needs assessment in light of the presence of two graduate programs within a 100 mile radius that are admitting students to programs with curricula preparing candidates for Adult Health CNS specialty; and (§3533.c.i. and ii.)

Document the employment of at least one Adult Health CNS prepared faculty with APRN licensure as an Adult Health (or medical-surgical nursing) CNS. (§4509.f.iii.)

Further, that authority to advertise, admit students, and conduct the program preparing candidates for APRN licensure will be determined once data requested has been submitted, a site visit conducted, and the Board has authorized the program.

Accepted Our Lady of The Lake College proposal to establish a master of science in anesthesiology program to prepare CRNAs for APRN licensure, sanction continued planning, and authorized a site visit for the purpose of initial approval.

Approved the request from Panola College for continued use of Louisiana clinical facilities.

Referred recommendation to initiate rulemaking to add §3326.Permission of Student to Enroll in Clinical Nursing Courses back to the Education Committee.

Approved request for Southern University at Baton Rouge to add a new specialty in gerontology to prepare gerontological nurse practitioners and gerontological clinical nurse specialists for APRN licensure; also **Approved** a post-masters gerontological certificate program for nurses who already hold the MSN.

Approved recommendation for continued approval of the request of Southern Arkansas University for the use of Minden Medical Center, Springhill and Heritage Nursing Center, Haynesville as clinical teaching sites for their associate degree nursing students, and that the request to use Willis Knighton be delayed pending receipt of evidence of collaboration with area colleges. (LAC 46:XLVII.3536.B.2.a)

Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Education Issues (Cont...)

Once the evidence is received, approval may be granted. Further, Southern Arkansas must submit evidence of renewal of their registration/licensure with the Louisiana Board of Regents prior to engaging in clinical laboratory experiences in Louisiana facilities.

Approved the request for faculty exceptions (LAC 46:XLVII.3515.B.7) of the following:

Delgado/Charity School of Nursing

Maria Rosalie Robertson Cambell, Arlisha P. Pratt, Shirely Ann Denson Jeandron, LaDasha S. Hickerson, and Joann Williams-Richardson

LSU at Alexandria

Tammy M. Ortego Lacombe

Louisiana Tech University

Michelle Phillips

McNeese State University

Kathleen E. Hundley

Our Lady of the Lake College

Jeanne Ann Peeler Bullman and Elyse D. McRae

Northwestern State University

Jennifer Haley Waddle

Southeastern Louisiana University

Joann Williams-Richardson

UL at Lafayette

Kimberly K. Landry, Cindy Kay Abington Stelly, and Cheryl Ann Romero Delahoussaye

UL at Monroe

Wendy Bea-Gaye Harrell Bailes, Paula Renee Gallien Miller, Jan Marie Heidenreich Shows, and Shari Furr Moreau

Dillard University

Angela Denise Landry

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Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Nurse Practice Issues

Approved that in accordance with R.S. 37:913(14)(1), it is within the scope of practice for the registered nurse to administer a monochromatic infrared photo energy treatment for indicated conditions, such as wound healing, in the clinical and home settings provided the registered nurse has documented knowledge, skills and abilities.

Approved that in accordance with R.S. 37:913(14)(1) that it is within the scope of practice of the registered nurse to remove the narcotic-free post-surgical pain relief systems such as the “ON-Q Soaker Catheter” provided the registered nurse has documented knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Approved that in accordance with R.S. 37:913(14)(1) that it is within the scope of practice of a registered nurse to perform a fetal fibronectin specimen collection via a speculum examination provided said nurse has appropriate knowledge, skills, and abilities in the clinical inpatient institution provided protocols are in place.

Approved that in accordance with R.S. 37:913(14)(1) that it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse (RN) to remove metal sutures/wires that secure arch bars and those that are securing the mouth closed. The RN may delegate to the licensed practical nurse (LPN) the removal of said metal sutures/wires provided the RN is physically present in the clinic during the removal and there is documentation on file regarding the LPN’s knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Approved to table RN performing ultrasound to determine fetus presentation in labor and delivery until such time as petitioner and/or Board staff can present requirements for ultrasound proficiency and training, and to survey other states regarding this matter.

Approved the Declaratory Statement regarding the Registered School Nurse delegating to trained unlicensed school employees the administration of Rectal Diastat in certain emergency situations.

Approved the Declaratory Statement on the Role and Scope of Practice of the Registered Nurse in the Administration of Medication and Monitoring of Patients During the Level of Procedural Sedation (Minimal, Moderate, Deep and Anesthesia) as defined herein be amended to include the following:

Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC) and

Major Actions of the Board—March 16, 2005

Nurse Practice Issues (Cont...)

Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) as indicated for appropriate age groups; and

Venous access shall be maintained for patients having sedation and analgesia or as deemed appropriate by the authorized prescriber; and

The declaratory statement be amended to qualify deep sedation/analgesia; defer to Board staff for wording; and

The declaratory statement be amended to include intent of Procedural Sedation in title and defer to Board staff for appropriate language; and

The institutional policy and plan for sedation practice shall include: Documentation and monitoring of physiologic measurements including, but not limited to blood pressure, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation, cardiac rate and rhythm, and level of consciousness shall be recorded at least every 5 minutes during the therapeutic, diagnostic or surgical procedure and at a minimum every 15 minutes during the recovery period or as deemed appropriate by the authorized prescriber.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing

Referred to the Executive Director and the President to submit nominations for the NCSBN 2005 Awards Program

Other Issues

Adopted the Louisiana Nursing Education Articulation Model 2005 and monitor its implementation.

Approved to extend the appointment of current members of the LSBN Taskforce on Nursing Education Articulation to March 2006.

Accepted the report of the Nursing Supply and Demand Commission.

Accepted the announcements of appointments to Our Lady of the Lake College as follows:

Melanie Green, MN, RN – Dean of the Undergraduate School of Nursing, and

Dr. Joan Ellis – Dean of the Graduate School of Nursing

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Questions on Online Accounts and Services

Q: What are the advantages of having an online account?

A: There are several advantages to having an online account. Listed are:

1. To be able to perform online renewals of your licenses.
2. To be able to make address changes to your home and business addresses.
3. To receive important information through e-mail about upcoming events or activities with the Board.

We will continue to improve and add new services to the site to provide nurses with better options for Board processes.

Q: What if I do not have a computer or internet connection. How can I create an account or perform online renewals?

A: You may contact your employer and in most cases they can provide you with a computer to use to create an account or perform online renewals. An advantage to this option is that co-workers may be able to help you if they have done it themselves. Alternatively, you could also go to a local library and use a public computer to do these same services.

Q: I have been to the website and cannot find where to create an account. Where do I go?

A: Once you navigate to the <http://www.lsbm.state.la.us> website on the left menu is an option **Online Services**. Click here to enter the online services page. The first option there is the **Nurse Account Signup**. Click here to enter the nurse account signup to begin the process of obtaining an LSBN Online Account.

Q: What information is required to open an online account?

A: Your License Number, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, and a Personal Identification Number. You will receive your PIN number upon receiving your initial licensure packet. If you were already licensed you would have received your PIN number on the back of your last renewal application. If you did not create an account for this past renewal season or misplaced your PIN letter from the initial licensure packet then you can contact Cherie Brown at (504) 838-5316 for a new PIN letter. We cannot give out PIN numbers through email or phone conversations.

Q: When entering information on the Nurse Account Signup screen I get the message "You must enter a correct value in all of the fields" what does this mean?

A: Usually this message indicates that the information entered may not be entered correctly. Your Social Security Number must be in the form of 123-45-6789 or 123456789. Your license number must be in the form of RN123456 or 123456. If it is a 5 digit number then RN012345 or 12345. If it is a 4 digit number then RN001234 or 1234. Your date of birth must have a full 4 digit year and use a leading zero for single digit months or days i.e. 05/05/1963.

Questions on Online Accounts and Services

Q: I have entered all my information correctly and I get this message "You do not validate as a registered nurse in our system. Please try again or contact the board to verify that your information in our system is correct."

A: Make sure that all your information is entered correctly. If that is indeed the case it is likely the information in our system is not correct and you will need to contact the board at Cherie Brown at 504-838-5316 to have your information corrected.

Q: My account is created but I cannot remember my password. What do I do?

A: When you try to login to a service and you get to the login screen there is a link at the bottom that states "If you lost your password click here." Click the link and you will be prompted for your Social Security Number and Email address. Upon entering both of those you will be sent an email with a new random password. You should then login with the new password and change your password to something more familiar to you. If you have changed your email you will need to contact Cherie Brown at 504-838-5316 to have your email address updated and then you can use the lost password page to receive a new password.

Q: I would like to change my email address or update the way I receive the Examiner. How do I do this?

A: At the <http://www.lsbm.state.la.us> website on the left menu click **Online Services**. In the middle of the page is the **My Profile** link. Click there to change your email address or update the method to receive the Examiner.

Q: What are the advantages of renewing online as opposed to sending in the application?

A: The main advantage of renewing online is Convenience. The online process only takes a few minutes to complete as opposed to filling in the application and mailing it in to the office. Speed is another advantage. Your application is processed within 20 minutes as opposed to having a 7-10 day turn around time. Also, if for some reason we have to send the application back that would add more time to the process as well. Finally, you will receive your license much quicker than the paper application process as a result of the quick turn around times.

Q: I am an APRN and I can renew my RN online but why not my APRN license?

A: Currently we are in the process of implementing APRN renewals online. We would very much like to have them ready for the next upcoming renewal season. If we do we will post it on our front page of the website and on the welcome page of the Online Renewal section to inform people that we have this process ready. We will also send out an email to those who have already signed up informing them of the APRN renewal process.

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Questions on Online Accounts and Services

Q: I have been to the website and cannot find where to renew my license. Where do I go?

A: Once you navigate to the <http://www.lsbn.state.la.us> website on the left menu is an option **Online Services**. Click here to enter the online services page. The last option there is **Online Renewals**. Click here to enter the Online Renewal Welcome page to begin the process of renewing your LSBN License(s).

Q: I have entered my login information but I get the message “SSN is not a valid SSN.” What is wrong?

A: You must make sure your Social Security Number is in the form of 123456789 or 123-45-6789.

Q: I have entered my login information but get the message “The SSN and/or Password cannot be found in the database. Please retry your login or Signup if you have not done so.” What does this mean?

A: One of two things:
1. You have not created an account. You can begin the process by clicking the new user link below the password field. Or;
2. Your password is not correct. If you have forgotten your password then you need to click the link where it states “If you have lost your password click here.”

Q: I have entered information on one of the renewal process steps but when I click next it does not go to the next page. What do I do?

A: On each step of the renewal process you will be required to fill out fields or select options. At the top of the page in red is a message indicating problems with the current step. Read the text and correct each problem until you are able to proceed to the next page. The system will not let you go to the next page until each step is filled out correctly. Most problems occur due to skipping a question or leaving a field blank.

Q: I have reached the Summary page and noticed that some information is not correct. What do I do?

A: You may click the back button to return to previous pages and correct information that is not correct. While at the summary page review everything and make sure it is correct. When you check the attest box and click next to go the payment process you will not be able to go back and correct information at that point. Please be sure to carefully verify that all information on the Summary page is correct before proceeding.

Q: I have entered all my credit card information but it is not letting me advance to the next step. Why?

A: Please make sure the following information is entered correctly:
1. Make sure the name on the card is entered into the field exactly as it is written on the card
2. Make sure the Credit Card number is entered into the field with no spaces or dashes.
3. Make sure the correct Credit Card Type is selected in the pulldown menu.

Questions on Online Accounts and Services

4. Make sure to select the correct month and year from the pull-down lists
5. Make sure the correct address on record for the card is entered in the address, city, state, and zip fields.

Q: I have submitted my credit card transaction and I get this message “There has been a problem with the Credit Card Transaction. Please review the message below and go back and try your transaction again.”

A: This can occur for several reasons:

1. You are using a check card which is not accepted at this time. The system will only accept valid credit cards by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover.
2. The information entered is not correct at which point you can go back and check to make sure all the information is entered correctly.
3. There is a problem with the credit card processing center.
4. The credit card is expired. You can go back and try another credit card.

Q: I have submitted my information but the computer crashed or a web page error occurred and I am not sure if my transaction went through. What can I do?

A: You may call the board at Lilie Rodgers at (504) 838-5499 and we may be able to verify that your transaction has gone through and correct any errors if they occurred.

Q: I have completed the renewal process and I am at a page with the invoice number and stating my credit card transaction was successful. Should I print this page?

A: This is the confirmation page and you should print this out for your records. If for some reason there is a problem on our end we can use this information to verify that you had gotten a successful transaction message. This will help you to avoid having to pay late fees or have your license go delinquent.

Q: I have renewed online but have not received my license. What do I do?

A: First verify that your license was updated using the Online Verification System. Online renewals take about 20 minutes to be processed. The licenses are then sent out by postal mail. Please allow 7-10 days for delivery of your license before contacting the board. If you still have not received your license then contact us. In most cases it was because of an address error which may need to be corrected. The address change is a part of the renewal process but may be missing an apartment number or some other important piece of the address that was left out. Also, if you change addresses at any time during the year you can fill out a form on the web or change your address online using the Address Change Service. You may be missing important information if your address is not up to date. All information from the board is sent to the address we have on record so it is important for you to keep this information up to date.

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Board Meeting Dates

Board meetings and the bi-annual meetings of the Advisory council will be held on the following dates:

<u>Closed Board Meetings</u>	<u>Open Board Meeting</u>	<u>Advisory Council</u>
June 13-14, 2005	June 15, 2005	
September 12-13, 2005	September 14, 2005	September 12, 2005
December 5-6, 2005	December 7, 2005	

Board meetings begin at 8:30 am at the Board office, 3510 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 601, Metairie, LA. Interested persons are encouraged to attend. Any group wishing to attend any portion of the Board meeting should contact the Board office at least four weeks prior to the meeting date to verify availability of space. Discipline hearings are held on the above specified closed meeting date(s). All actions of the Board are taken in open session. Specific times for agenda items are not established. If there are questions concerning when an agenda item will be addressed, contact the Board office.

Agendas are posted on the Board's website: www.lsbn.state.la.us at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date.

Committee Meeting Dates

Committee meetings of the LSBN begin at 9:00 am at the Board office on the following dates:

April 26-27, 2005
July 26-27, 2005
October 25-26, 2005

2005 State Holidays

January 17, 2005	Martin Luther King's Holiday (by proclamation)
February 8, 2005	Mardi Gras State Holiday (statute)
March 25, 2005	Good Friday State Holiday (statute)
May 30, 2005	Memorial Day State Holiday (by proclamation)
July 4, 2005	Independence Day State Holiday (statute)
September 5, 2005	Labor Day State Holiday (statute)
November 11, 2005	Thanksgiving (statute)
November 24, 2005	Veterans' Day State Holiday Observed (statute)
November 25, 2005*	Acadian Day State Holiday (by proclamation)
December 26, 2005	Christmas Day State Holiday (statute)
January 2, 2006*	New Year's Day State Holiday (by proclamation)

Holidays listed "by proclamation" are not legal holidays until proclaimed by the governor of Louisiana.

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HAS YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGED?

If so, please complete this form and return it to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing 3510 N. Causeway, Suite 501, Metairie, LA 70002.

This is a change of:

____Name (*Documentation Required*)* ____Address ____Replacement Card Needed**

* Copy of a marriage license, divorce decree with name restoration clause, or other legal document granting a name change is required.

** A licensee who wishes a license card replaced because of a change in name or address must return the current license card to the Board, give information that is to be changed, and pay a \$10.00 replacement fee.

For identification, please provide the following:

LA RN License # _____ Social Security Number _____

Signature _____ Date _____ Daytime phone _____

Current Name and Address:

Name (Last, First, Middle) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number (area code/number) _____

Former Name and Address:

Name (Last, First, Middle) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone Number (area code/number) _____

No Fee for Name or Address Change (Copy as Needed)

LEGAL DUTY TO NOTIFY THE BOARD OF NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGE

Every RN with a Louisiana license is responsible for immediately notifying the Board office in writing of any name or address change. Correspondence from the Board, such as licensure renewal, notice of Board Actions printed in The Examiner which may affect the license, as well as disciplinary charges and notice of hearing are mailed to the last known address of the Registered Nurse. Therefore, failure to properly notify the Board of one's current address can result in a lapsed license, noncompliance with regulations of the Board, or disciplinary action in the nurse's absence.

NOTE: The rules of the Board provide that correspondence to the last known address is legal notice. If the mailing is not returned to the Board, the legal presumption is that the RN has been properly notified of the mailing. The responsibility rests with the licensee to assure that the Board has a current address on file at all times. A change of address form appears on the back page of each issue of The Examiner.
