

September 15, 2003

Shelly Hebert, RN, CRRN
Legal Nurse Consultant
3324 Line Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71104

Dear Ms. Hebert:

Pursuant to your request regarding the scope of practice of registered nurses performing sexual assault exams and function as a sexual assault nurse (SANE), your request was studied by the Practice Committee on July 15, 2003. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on September 12, 2003, and. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinions:

That in reference to agenda item 6.5, it is within the scope of practice for an RN to practice under the SANE program provided the RN has documentation of knowledge, skills, and abilities as set forth in the clinical forensic course recognized by ANCC and that the SANE RN shall practice within the scope and standards of forensic nursing practice as developed by the International Association of Forensic Nurses and published by the American Nurses Association. Nothing herein shall include medical diagnosis and the RN may not perform the bimanual examination of pelvic organs.

The Board members appreciated your attendance at the Committee meeting to answer questions and to discuss this matter with you and Deborah Travis

Contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director, LSBN

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