Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Mrs. Margie D. Gibbs, R.N. President 907 Pere Marquette Building 150 Baronne Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112-2382 504-568-5464

Miss Merlyn M. Maillian, R.N. Executive Director

May 24, 1984

Jean Dillon, R.N.
Director of Maternal Nursing
West Calcasieu-Cameron Hospital
P.O. Drawer J
Sulphur, LA 70663

Dear Ms. Dillon:

At its May 18, 1984 meeting, the Board of Nursing acted on your request for an official interpretation of the legal definition of nursing practice, specifically whether or not a registered nurse may remove an umbilical catheter from a baby in a newborn nursery.

The Board determined that it is within the legal scope of the practice of the registered nurse to remove an umbilical catheter from a nursery newborn provided the nurse has the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience and if there is documentation of these.

If I can further assist you in nursing practice matters, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, R.N.

Sister Line Lema

Nursing Practice Consultant

SLL:hj