

the BRN report

VOLUME 12, NO. 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

WINTER 1999

California BRN Examines the Mutual Recognition Model for Nursing Regulation

*A message from Ruth Ann Terry, MPH, RN
Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing*

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. is the organization through which boards of nursing act and counsel together on matters of common interest and concern affecting public health, safety, and welfare, including the development of licensure examinations for nursing. The Delegate Assembly is the organization's voting membership that represents each state board of nursing throughout the United States as well as those of American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

The Delegate Assembly approved the concept of a mutual recognition model of nursing regulation in August 1997 as a

method to facilitate interstate nursing practice. As envisioned, a single license would allow a nurse to practice in more than one state. Under the existing licensure system, nurses are required to be licensed in every state in which they practice.

Telenursing, including advice nursing, which crosses state lines; an increase in integrated/multistate health systems; and increased mobility of nurses have caused state boards of nursing to evaluate the existing licensure system to eliminate or reduce barriers to interstate nursing practice and patient access to nursing care.

In December 1997, the Delegate Assembly adopted model compact language for



Ruth Ann Terry

the implementation of the concept of multistate regulation of licensure for RNs and licensed vocational nurses (LVNs). An interstate compact is a formal agreement between two or more states to resolve a mutual problem that transcends state lines. The concept of an interstate compact is not new. An example of such a compact is the driver's license compact. Executed by 48 states, this compact permits a person licensed in the state in which he or she resides to drive temporarily in a compact state without a license from that state.

Similarly, under the nurse licensure compact, the RN or LVN would be licensed in the home state of residence but would be authorized to practice in *any* state in which the compact agreement had been executed *without* being required to obtain a license in that state. The nurse who practices in a compact state is responsible for being knowledgeable about that state's rules and regulations and can be subject to discipline by that state for acts committed in that state.

New Law Protects Title "Nurse" and Requires Name Tags

The title "nurse" is now protected by law effective January 1, 1999, as the result of legislation introduced by Assemblyman Brett Granlund.

"In the interest of public safety and consumer awareness," AB 1439 (chaptered 98-1013) prohibits the use of the title "nurse" by any individual except RNs or licensed vocational nurses. The new law does not prohibit certified nurses' aides from using their specific title.

This new law also requires health care practitioners to wear a name tag while working that discloses their name and

practitioner license status in at least 18-point type. In psychiatric settings or in settings not licensed by the state, employers have the discretion to not require name tags if there are individual safety or therapeutic concerns. Also, if the practitioner's license is prominently displayed in a practice or an office, name tags are not required.

The Board supported this legislation as a means to prevent confusion for consumers.

Other new laws that became effective January 1, 1999, appear in the "Legislative Update" section of this newsletter.

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the BRN report

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Purpose

The purpose of The BRN Report is to inform registered nurses of current laws related to nursing, Board policies and activities, and issues pertaining to the regulation of nursing practice and education.

The BRN Report is printed in Sacramento, CA, and is the official publication of the California Board of Registered Nursing. The newsletter is mailed at bulk rates. Authorization is granted to reproduce items; acknowledgment is appreciated.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

MISSION STATEMENT

Protect the health and safety of consumers and promote quality registered nursing in the state of California. To accomplish this we will:

- *Establish and uphold competency standards, provide guidance and interpretation, prevent patient harm, and intervene with discipline and rehabilitation.*
- *Serve the public in a customer-oriented, well-managed, and respectful manner.*
- *Provide employees with the opportunity for satisfying work in an atmosphere of shared commitment.*

A Note to the Reader

This section explains terms which appear in the articles and provides the Board of Registered Nursing's addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers.

"Board" refers collectively to the nine appointed members. The "Board" is the Board of Registered Nursing's policy-making body that has responsibility for interpretation and enforcement of the Nursing Practice Act.

"BRN" is the Board of Registered Nursing. This is the state agency within the Department of Consumer Affairs that has the responsibility for implementation of Board policy and programs.

"NPA" refers to the Nursing Practice Act with Rules and Regulations. The NPA contains laws and regulations that govern the practice of registered nurses in California. It consists of sections 2700-2838 of the Business and Professions Code and Title 16, Division 14, of the California Code of Regulations. Nurses are responsible for knowledge of subsequent changes in the law. *The BRN Report* is one mechanism for informing registered nurses of these changes.

"RN(s)" is the abbreviation for registered nurse(s).

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Requests for additional copies of this issue of *The BRN Report*, items mentioned in the articles, previously-published articles, and back issues can be made to either office.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Former Governor Pete Wilson appointed two new members to the Board prior to his leaving office. He appointed **Thomas C. Kravis, MD**, to the physician member position. Kravis, from San Diego, is a health care management consultant for Milliman & Robertson, Inc. He graduated from Fairfield University in Connecticut and received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Pennsylvania. He completed specialty training in internal medicine and pulmonary disease at the University of California, San Diego. His term ends June 1, 2002.

His second appointment was **Sandra L. Erickson, CRNA, BA**, who will be the nursing administration representative for a term ending June 1, 2001. Erickson graduated from Greenville General Hospital School of Nursing, Greenville, South Carolina. She received her certificate as a nurse anesthetist from the Medical University of South Carolina and her bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of San Francisco. Erickson is employed at Kaiser Permanente and is currently the Chief Nurse Anesthetist at Kaiser San Jose-Santa Teresa Community Hospital.

Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno, PhD, RN, has been re-elected Board President.

Sharon Ecker, AS, RN, completed the term for a nurse member in direct practice who had previously resigned. Former Governor Wilson appointed her to a four-year term, expiring June 1, 2002. She has been elected Board Vice President for 1999.

Three members have left the Board. **Kim D. Enomoto, MD, MPH**, completed her term with the Board. **Anne Panush, MA**, public member, and **Kay Schroer, MS, RN**, the member representing nursing administration, have resigned. The Board expresses great appreciation for the commitment and assistance these members provided in carrying out the mission of the BRN.

Meet the Board Members

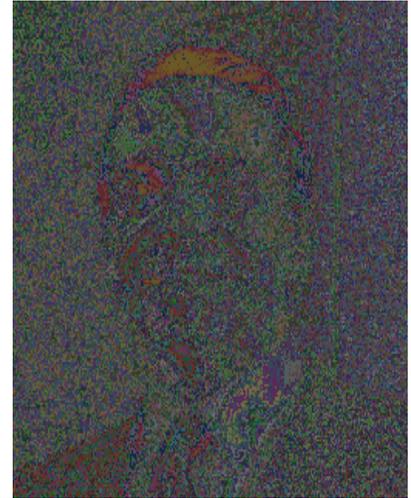
The BRN Report will present a profile of one or two members of the BRN's Board in each issue. There are nine members on the Board—three who represent the public at large; five who are registered nurses (three engaged in direct patient care, one in nursing education, and one in nursing administration); and one member who is a licensed physician.

Seth Liebman, JD

"Since coming onto the Board as a public member, I have learned how dynamic, exciting, and challenging the registered nursing profession is." This is a comment from Seth Liebman, who was appointed to the Board by Assemblyman Curt Pringle and is one of its three public members. Liebman's term began December 1, 1996, and expires June 1, 2000. He served on the Board's Legislative Committee and Diversion/Discipline Committee in 1997 and was a member of the Diversion/Discipline Committee in 1998.

Liebman received his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Georgia in 1982, graduating magna cum laude with general honors. He continued his education at the University of Texas, where he received his law degree in 1985, again graduating with honors.

After completing law school, Liebman served as Special Counsel for Judicial Selection for the United States Department of Justice until 1988. He then became a member of the law firm of Call, Clayton & Jensen in Newport Beach.



Seth Liebman

One of Liebman's community activities has been speaking to elementary school students about the practice of law during Orange County's annual Law Day. Liebman also is a campaign volunteer for the Republican Party. He is a member of the Orange County Bar Association and the Orange County Republican Lawyers Association. Travel, foreign languages, and current events are among his many interests.

"It is an honor to be able to serve the people of California as a member of a regulatory board for such an important profession," Liebman concludes.

Board Updates Advisory Statement on the Registered Nurse as First Assistant to the Surgeon

An RN first assistant assists the surgeon during operative procedures and performs a combination of nursing and medical functions. The BRN's advisory statement related to the practice of the RN as first assistant to the surgeon was adopted in 1989. In 1998, after receiving

public input, the Board's Nursing Practice Committee recommended to the full Board that it adopt an updated, expanded version of the statement; the Board did so. The revised statement, which includes examples of standardized procedures, can be obtained by contacting BRN offices.

Advisory Statement on Floating Revised

BRN staff revised the previously issued statement related to RNs floating to new patient care units. The Board adopted the revised statement at its December 4, 1998, meeting, and it is reprinted here for your convenience. Copies can be obtained from BRN offices.



RN RESPONSIBILITY WHEN FLOATING TO NEW PATIENT CARE UNIT OR ASSIGNED TO NEW POPULATION

The Board of Registered Nursing receives many inquiries from RNs who are being asked to float to a new patient care unit. The RNs often ask the BRN what their responsibilities are when being floated to a new unit and whether the RN can refuse the assignment if the RN determines she/he is not competent to provide safe nursing care.

The RN is always responsible for providing safe, competent nursing care. Therefore, before accepting a patient assignment, the RN must have the necessary knowledge, judgment, skills, and ability to provide the required care.

It is the RN's responsibility to determine whether she/he is clinically competent to perform the nursing care required on the new unit or with the new patient population. If the RN is not clinically competent to perform the care, she/he should not accept the patient care assignment. The RN may accept a limited assignment of nursing care duties, which utilizes his/her currently existing clinical competence.

The competency standards to which the Board holds the RN accountable are specified in the Nursing Practice Act, Section 2725, and the California Code of Regulations Section 1443.5, Standards of Competent Performance. The Nursing Practice Act and the Standards of Competent Performance apply in all settings where RNs practice nursing. If the RN accepts an assignment for patient care and is not clinically competent, the RN license can be disciplined.

Nursing administrators, supervisors, and managers have a crucial responsibility to assure appropriate and competent nursing care to patients/clients. The BRN requires nursing administrators, supervisors, and managers to assign patient care only to RNs who are clinically competent. Nursing administrators, supervisors, and managers may have their licenses subject to discipline if they do not ensure assignment of clinically competent RN staff.

The Department of Health Services, Title 22, Acute Care Regulations, amended in 1996, require competency validation for RNs and patient care personnel. These regulations are in addition to the Nursing Practice Act requirements. Registered nurses and patient care personnel who may be temporarily redirected (floated) are required to undergo the process of competency validation for their assigned patient care unit.

The regulations require:

- (A) assigning only those duties and responsibilities for which competency has been validated.
- (B) the RN who has demonstrated competency for the patient care unit be responsible for planning and implementing patient care, providing clinical supervision, and coordinating the care given by LVNs and unlicensed nursing personnel, and for assigning an RN resource nurse for RNs and LVNs who have not completed the competency validation for the unit.
- (C) RNs who have not completed the competency validation for the unit cannot be assigned total responsibility for patient care, including duties and responsibilities for planning and implementing patient care and providing clinical supervision and coordination of care given by LVNs and unlicensed nursing personnel, until all the standards for competency for that unit have been met.

The amendments to Title 22 are in concert with the statutory requirement as set forth in the Business and Profession Code, Section 2725, Nursing Practice Act, and California Code of Regulation, Section 1443.5 Standards of Competent Performance.

DIFFERENTIATED PRACTICE AND THE WORK FORCE TELECONFERENCE

Approximately 450 RNs, licensed vocational nurses, and students participated in the northern California teleconference *The New Bottom Line: Competence, Quality, Differentiated Practice and the Work Force* presented November 4, 1998.

Participants viewed the conference at 20 sites as far south as Turlock, Merced, and Sacramento and as far north as Eureka/Arcata and Crescent City. Presentation by teleconference provided an opportunity for nurses in metropolitan as well as rural areas to become informed about the California Nursing Outcomes Coalition (CalNOC) and its research on the impact nursing care has on patient outcomes in acute-care hospitals and skilled nursing facilities.

Information was also presented about the forecasting model developed by the California Strategic Planning Committee for Nursing/Colleagues in Caring (CSPCN/CIC) and the Education Industry Interface (EII) Work Group. This 80-member work group (representatives of nurses in a variety of employment settings, educators, labor contracting organizations, and regulatory agencies) is developing role competencies for RNs, LVNs, and advanced-practice RNs (NPs and CNMs). Nurses, nursing service administrators and managers, and educators can use the role competencies to educate and better utilize these important health care personnel. The old adage that a "nurse is a nurse" no longer has validity. The latest information about the work of EII and CSPCN/CIC can be located at www.ucihhs.edu.cspcn.

In addition to presentations about these two dynamic statewide initiatives, information was presented about the BRN and competencies expected of all RNs.

Copies of the four-hour teleconference are available as three-tape sets and can

be purchased for \$35.00 from the Association of California Nurse Leaders. Please call (916) 552-7529 to obtain an order form.

California Strategic Planning Committee for Nursing/Colleagues in Caring sponsored the teleconference. Cosponsors were Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital, Association of California Nurse Leaders, and the nursing programs from CSU, Sacramento, Sacramento City College, American River College, and Sierra College. Media Technology Services of California State University, Sacramento produced the teleconference.

CSPCN/CIC will host a summit on October 7, 1999, in Sacramento to report on the status of these initiatives and the plans for demonstration models using role competencies for differentiating nursing practice and education. Circle the date now and watch for additional information. Also watch for announcements of regional forums and teleconferences in your geographic area. They will be listed on the CSPCN/CIC Web site and will be distributed through professional organizations.

DIVERSION Program

To contact the Diversion Program at the Board of Registered Nursing, call (916) 322-3350 and press 4 for Diversion Program staff. To reach the program 24 hours a day via our contractor, Occupational Health Services, Inc., in California call (800) 522-9198, and outside California, call (415) 491-7449.

Program participants as of 2/5/99..... 409
 RNs successfully completing the Program as of 2/5/99..... 666

BRN Statistics

November 30, 1998

	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	TOTAL
Registered Nurses	244,105	18,139	262,244
Clinical Nurse Specialists	804	0	804
Listed Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurses	398	13	411
Nurse Anesthetists	1,399	15	1,414
Nurse Midwives	972	13	985
Nurse Midwife Furnishing	429	1	430
Nurse Practitioners	8,312	136	8,448
Nurse Practitioner Furnishing	5,025	13	5,038
Public Health Nurses	38,074	2,202	40,276
Continuing Education Providers	3,355	N.A.	3,355

Annual Report of the Department of Consumer Affairs

Reflects BRN Activities for 1997-1998

The BRN is one of 27 boards, committees, or commissions within the state's Department of Consumer Affairs. The BRN summarized its activities for the 1997-1998 fiscal year and presented its information to the Department of Consumer Affairs for inclusion in its annual report. The narrative and accompanying statistics are reprinted here to provide you with a description of the BRN's accomplishments.

Purpose

The mission of the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) is to protect the health and safety of consumers and to promote quality registered nursing care in California. The Board acts as an advocate for health care consumers by setting and enforcing safe nursing practice standards and by educating the public.

Nursing Summit

The BRN cosponsored a "Nursing Summit on Differentiated Practice" for 600 registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, and nursing students in January 1998. In response to the changing health care scene, differentiated practice models are being deliberated among nursing professionals to distinguish and recognize such factors as experience, education, competency, specialty expertise, and credentials. The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians and the California Strategic Planning Committee for Nursing (CSPCN) participated in the summit as cosponsors. Board of Registered Nursing staff expanded public outreach on the proposed models through three subsequent CSPCN Regional Forums.

Senate Hearing on Nursing Shortage

California is experiencing a nursing shortage that is particularly significant in specialized nursing practice arenas such as emergency and intensive care. At the same time, access and funding for such nursing education are inadequate to meet the future needs of California's population. The BRN Executive Officer presented these concerns, as well as

proposed action plans, to the Senate Business and Professions Committee on March 2, 1998, at an informational hearing on the nursing shortage. The BRN continues to work with nursing organizations and educational institutions to evaluate and address the problem.

New Certification Mandate

Legislation that passed in 1997 requires that, effective July 1998, no person may use the title "Clinical Nurse Specialist" (CNS) unless certified by the BRN (Stats. 1997, C. 159 [AB90]). The law was based in part on a study by the BRN that showed substantial public confusion regarding use of the CNS title and inconsistency in CNS qualifications. To protect consumers, the Board recommended to the legislature that CNSs be certified through a titling act. In spring 1998, a CNS Task Force provided input to the BRN on standards and application processes, and the BRN successfully implemented the new law by the effective date.

Enforcement Workshops

The BRN presented two Expert Witness Workshops to 120 participants in June 1998. The workshops were intended to be a recruitment tool for new experts in BRN disciplinary cases and to serve in educating both new and continuing experts on the legal aspects of being an expert witness. Topics included discussion of BRN standards, general qualifications of an expert witness, how to write an expert report, and how to testify at a hearing as an expert. Speakers included staff from the Attorney General's office and the BRN, as well as current expert witnesses.

School Nurse Advisory Committee

In response to public concerns regarding the utilization of school nurses and other personnel in public schools, the BRN formed a School Nurse Advisory Committee. The committee's report was presented and approved at the May 1998 Board meeting. Its far-reaching findings and recommendations will help improve care for at-risk public school children.

Public Outreach and Education

The BRN pursued an aggressive public education agenda through presentations by Board members and staff at over 75 events during 1997/98. To enhance the impact of outreach efforts, the BRN developed professional videos, brochures, and PowerPoint materials. In addition to public presentations, the BRN also promotes effective information exchange through regular, active collaboration on nursing issues with other health-related agencies and professional organizations.

FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

Item	Number
Licensing Activity	
Applications Received	19,340
Applications Denied	46
Licenses Issued	11,335
Total Active Licenses	242,054
Licenses Renewed	123,559
RN Pre-licensure Program Approvals	
Programs approved	30
Continuing Education	
CE Providers	3,474
CE Audits	2,300
Enforcement Program	
Complaints Received	1,675
Administrative Outcomes Against Licenses	
• Revocation	68
• Surrender of License	17
• Probation with Suspension	10
• Probation Only	65
• Licenses Denied	5
Petitions for Reinstatement of Revoked Licenses	
• Granted	6
• Denied	5
Diversion Program	
• Self-referrals	32
• Board Referrals	120
• Total Number of Participants	398
• Successful Completions	56

A Message from the Editor:

What Is *The BRN Report*?

As an RN, you are already exposed to volumes of written material. Then this newsletter arrives in your mailbox. It may get tossed right away, but more likely it gets set aside to be read later and becomes one more thing to do on an already full "to do" list. A brief description of what this newsletter is and what it can do for you may encourage you to read it sooner and then keep it for future reference.

What is the purpose of the newsletter?

Publication of this document is one activity by which the BRN carries out its mission to protect the health and safety of consumers and promote quality registered nursing in the state of California. Registered nurses are held accountable for knowing the laws and regulations that govern their practice, and reading this newsletter is one way to stay informed of new laws and proposed legislation that will affect practice.

Production of the newsletter also supports the BRN's Strategic Plan objective of increasing public awareness and education regarding BRN activities and objectives.

The newsletter provides an opportunity for the President of the Board and the Executive Officer of the BRN to address all RNs; provides information about BRN programs, such as the Diversion Program; explores nursing practice and licensing issues; covers topics related to continuing education; and provides information related to Board activities and BRN services.

Who are the contributors and authors of the articles?

BRN staff have been assigned responsibility for this publication. From time to time, Board members, the Executive Officer, the Assistant Executive Officer,

and other BRN staff members write articles, provide items, and participate in the preparation of the newsletter. Staff who work on a particular issue are named as contributors in the masthead on page 2.

What is the newsletter's format?

The title *The BRN Report* is descriptive, if not catchy. Newsletter articles are often copied and circulated. The tone and style of this newsletter are more formal and detailed than some other publications because this newsletter represents a state regulatory body. Articles are edited to ensure accuracy and consistency of style. They generally include relevant Business and Professions Code sections or sections of the California Code of Regulations so that those readers who wish to do so can locate the code sections in the primary sources.

To promote readability, features such as the publishing information box, "Mission Statement," "A Note to the Reader," "How to Obtain the Nursing Practice Act," and Board meeting dates and locations will appear in the same place in each issue. Each issue of the newsletter will also generally include the NCLEX-RN test results, Diversion Program contact information and statistics related to program participants, "Guide for Using the BRN Phone System," and statistics related to registered nurses and certificate categories. "Disciplinary Actions and Reinstatements" will continue to be a feature and, starting with this issue, definitions of the specific actions will be provided.

Articles and items will necessarily reflect actions or decisions a few months old because of the time frame during which production of the newsletter occurs.



ALL RNs who are renewing their licenses and want an active license must **sign** the license renewal form. An active license is required to work either for paid employment or as a volunteer practicing nursing. When providing the information related to continuing education, list only those courses that have been successfully completed and contact hours that have been awarded; do not list courses in progress.

Registered nurses who are renewing their licenses but want to be in the inactive status do not need to sign the renewal form or list continuing education courses or contact hours.



To learn how you can become a member of National Council's NCLEX™ item development panels, call the National Council Item Development Hot Line at 312/787-6555, Ext. 496.

Legislative Update

AB 1439, Granlund, regarding restrictions on the use of the title "nurse" and requiring health care practitioners to wear name tags, is discussed on page 1 of this issue. The following bills related to nursing were also chaptered in 1998. Although these bills address many subjects, each affects registered nursing in some way.

AB 2305, RUNNER **Chaptered 98-1013** **Pain Management**

AB 2305 requires every health care plan contract that covers prescription drug benefits to provide coverage for appropriately prescribed pain management medications for terminally ill patients, when medically necessary. The health care plan must approve or deny the request by the provider for authorization of coverage in a timely fashion, not to exceed 72 hours from receipt of the request.

AB 2438, MURRAY **Chaptered 98-1064** **Maternal and Child Health Services**

AB 2438 requires every group health care service plan contract reissued, renewed, or delivered on or after January 1, 1999, that provides maternity benefits, except a specialized health care plan contract, to provide coverage for participation in the Expanded Alpha Feto Protein Program (AFP). The AFP is a statewide prenatal program administered by the State Department of Health Services.

AB 2693, MILDEN **Chaptered 98-0789** **Controlled Substances—Schedule II Prescriptions**

AB 2693 authorizes Schedule II controlled substance prescriptions for use by "terminally ill" patients to be exempt from being prepared in triplicate, with one copy being sent to the Department of Justice. In order for a Schedule II controlled substance prescription to be exempt, the provider must certify that the patient is terminally ill and meets all of the following conditions:

- ☞ The patient has been determined to be suffering from an illness that is incurable and irreversible.

- ☞ The patient's illness will, if the illness takes its normal course, bring about the death of the patient within a period of one year.
- ☞ The Schedule II controlled substance is for the control of pain, symptom management, or both, rather than for the cure of the illness.

AB 2721, MILLER **Chaptered 98-0971** **Unprofessional Conduct**

AB 2721 declares that any person who is licensed, certified, or registered who engages in, or who aids or abets in, prostitution-related crimes occurring in the workplace is guilty of unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary action against his or her license.

SB 440, MADDY **Chaptered 98-0347** **Home Health Agencies**

SB 440 authorizes a pharmacist to perform certain procedures or functions as part of the care of a licensed home health agency. A pharmacist can perform the following procedures or functions, in accordance with written policies, procedures, or patient-specific protocols approved by the treating or supervising physician and developed by health care professionals, including physicians, pharmacists, and registered nurses:

- ☞ Order or perform routine drug therapy-related patient assessment procedures, including temperature, pulse, and respirations.
- ☞ Order drug therapy-related laboratory tests.
- ☞ Administer drugs and biologicals by injection pursuant to a prescriber's order.
- ☞ Adjust the drug regimen of a patient pursuant to a specific written order or authorization made by the patient's prescriber.

SB 1140, WATSON **Chaptered 98-0791** **Pain Management**

SB 1140 requires the BRN to consider, in establishing standards for continuing education, a course in the special care needs of individuals and their families facing end-of-life issues, including, but not limited to, the following:

- ☞ Pain and symptom management
- ☞ Psychosocial dynamics of death
- ☞ Dying and bereavement
- ☞ Hospice care

SB 1663, O'CONNELL **Chaptered 98-0625** **Child Day Care Facilities and Inhaled Medications**

SB 1663 authorizes licensees and staff of child day care facilities to administer inhaled medications to children, if the following requirements are met:

- ☞ The licensee or staff person has been provided with written authorization from the minor's parent or legal guardian to administer inhaled medication and authorization to contact the child's health care provider.
- ☞ The licensee or staff person complies with specific written instructions from the child's physician.
- ☞ The licensee or staff person who administers the inhaled medication to the child records each instance and provides a record to the minor's parent or legal guardian on a daily basis.

Beginning January 1, 2000, a licensee or staff person who obtains or renews a pediatric first-aid certificate must complete formal training designed to provide instruction in administering inhaled medication to children with respiratory needs.

(continued on the next page)

Mutual Recognition Model *(continued from page 1)*

Implementation of the model requires that at least two states participate and that each state adopts the identical compact language. The compact language is added to the state's Nursing Practice Act and, therefore, requires statutory authorization. Member boards were encouraged to solicit the enactment of enabling state legislation to facilitate implementation by January 1, 2000. In March 1998, Utah became the first state adopting the compact language. Several other states are proposing to introduce legislation in 1999.

The model is also predicated on the existence of a central disciplinary data bank and coordinated licensure information system that would allow boards of nursing to share information related to licensure and disciplinary actions.

Implementation of this model has been discussed at length in each state as well as in many nursing organizations. The BRN and the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians have been very involved since the beginning of the discussions. Both boards continue to have grave concerns about the model as currently proposed and the potential adverse impact on our

mission to protect consumer health, safety, and welfare. There are still many unanswered questions and issues about the model, including these:

- ⌘ The boards' ability to investigate complaints and pursue disciplinary action across state lines would be negatively impacted.
- ⌘ States would be forced to rely on a complex national database for licensing, complaint, and discipline information exchange. The system, which is not yet developed, would be owned and operated by a nongovernmental agency.
- ⌘ States would not have knowledge of those nurses who are not licensed in the state but who are practicing under the compact agreement. These nurses would not derive the benefits, such as state newsletters and other communications, routinely provided by the board to its licensees to inform them of existing laws and regulations and any proposed changes.
- ⌘ National and state laws pertaining to confidentiality of board records are not adequately addressed in the compact language.
- ⌘ A state would be required to relinquish sovereignty to take action against the license of a nurse practicing within its boundaries, irrespective of the impact on consumer safety.
- ⌘ Confusion would be created among consumers and employers relative to jurisdictional authority over licensees.
- ⌘ The model creates two systems of nurse licensure and currently does not include advanced practice nurses.
- ⌘ The appropriateness and effectiveness of the model in addressing the issues of telehealth/multistate nursing practice are questionable. The model calls for a major change in the licensure system of each participating state and will require participation by a significant number of states to be effective. All this effort will be directed to address an issue that affects only a small segment of the nursing workforce. Furthermore, it is a complex system, which would require legislative involvement and concurrence by each state whenever a change in compact language is necessary.

The BRN recognizes that the interstate practice of nursing is an issue, and we anticipate that as we move into the next millennium, health care delivery systems will continue to change and that technological advances will further modify the methods of providing health care. We are committed to exploring options, such as the mutual recognition model, and developing and implementing strategies that are reflective of the changes and that maximize consumer protection and access to nursing care. We will continue to keep California nurses abreast of any proposed changes.

Legislative Update *(continued from previous page)*

SB 1940, PEACE **Chaptered 98-0388** **Workers' Compensation and** **Nurse Practitioners**

SB 1940 requires the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation to establish a fee schedule for services provided by nurse practitioners and physician assistants. This schedule will be included in the official medical fee schedule that establishes reasonable maximum fees paid for medical services under the workers' compensation laws.

SB 2020, KARNETTE **Chaptered 98-0839** **Prostate Screening and Nurse** **Practitioners**

SB 2020 requires every individual or group health care service plan contract to provide coverage for screening and diagnosis of prostate cancer, including, but not limited to, prostate-specific antigen testing and digital rectal examinations. It authorizes a participating physician or nurse practitioner to provide screening and diagnosis of prostate cancer and to make necessary referrals consistent with good professional practice.

California Registered Nurses Participate in National Council's NCLEX Panels

One of the features found in each issue of this newsletter is an ad from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing inviting RNs to participate in the development of the NCLEX-RN exam as item writers, item reviewers, or panel judges. These individuals serve a critical role in ensuring the competency and safety of future RNs.

The National Council describes item writers as those who create the questions used for the NCLEX, item reviewers as those who review the items created by the item writers, and judges as those who participate on a panel and recommend the NCLEX passing standard to the National Council Board of Directors.

California is well represented in this process. The following RNs have participated in meetings held during 1998:

<u>Item Writers</u>	<u>Clinical Specialty</u>
Donna M. Babao	Med-Surg
Candace Furlong	Psych
Laura Heinzman Henretta	Med-Surg
Gloria Leifer	Peds/OB
Linda Diann Leon	Med-Surg
Susan Longacre	OB/Newborn
Carol Mead	Med-Surg
Marion Adele Mills	Peds
<u>Item Reviewers</u>	
Janice F. Bouma	Med-Surg
Joy M. Brown	Med-Surg
Patricia Lim	Psych
Linda Susan Loiselle	Peds

Licensing Exam Results

JANUARY 1, 1998 – JUNE 30, 1998	TOTAL	PASS	%PASS
FIRST TIME CANDIDATES			
California Graduates	2,242	1,926	85.9%
California Nongraduates	100	82	82.0%
Other U.S.-Educated Candidates	298	134	78.5%
Non-U.S.-Educated Candidates	886	262	29.6%
Total First-Time Candidates	3,526	2,504	71.0%
REPEATING CANDIDATES			
California Graduates	551	232	42.1%
California Nongraduates	21	9	42.9%
Other U.S.-Educated Candidates	104	47	45.2%
Non-U.S.-Educated Candidates	1,998	223	11.2%
Total Repeating Candidates	2,674	511	19.1%
GRAND TOTAL	6,200	3,015	48.6%

Disciplinary Actions and Reinstatements

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 2750, the Board of Registered Nursing has authority to discipline a registered nursing license for violation of the Nursing Practice Act. The disciplinary penalty is determined based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, severity and recency of offense, rehabilitation evidence, current ability to practice safely, mitigating factors, and past disciplinary history. Although the disciplinary list appears lengthy, it does not reflect widespread problems in the nursing field. The BRN takes action against approximately 200 licensees annually, a figure which represents less than one-tenth of one percent of the total population of 262,000 California RNs. Following are disciplinary actions the Board imposed between 1-1-98 and 6-30-98. Please refer to the end of this section for definitions of the terms used. The Board recommends that the accuracy and currency of the information be verified with the BRN before any decisions are made based on the information. If you have questions regarding these disciplinary actions, please call (916) 322-3350.

BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REINSTATEMENTS

January 1, 1998, to June 30, 1998

LICENSES REVOKED

- ANDERSON, Michael Arthur** (RN 420524)
Federal Way, WA
Disciplined in another state for inappropriate contact with a patient. Revoked effective 3-20-98.
- BARNES, Brigid (Mary Brigid FALLGREN)** (RN 377469)
Quincy, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.
- BEST, Carole Valerie Jean** (RN 205104)
Denver, CO
Convicted of offenses related to driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Revoked effective 6-28-98.
- BLOUGH, Pamela Elizabeth** (RN 303456)
Riverside, CA
Disciplined by another state for leaving assignment and misappropriating controlled substances for personal use. Unprofessional conduct while on duty as a director of nursing in California. Revoked effective 6-20-98.
- BRASE, Susan Melinda** (RN 370873)
Visalia, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 4-29-98.
- BROGAN, Kay Marie** (RN 420782)
San Bruno, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.
- CLAUNCH, Donald Lee (Don Lee SHOEMAKER; Don Lee GREEN)** (RN 269915)
Delhi, CA
Obtained, possessed and used controlled substances which he obtained illegally. Revoked effective 5-29-98.

Disciplinary Actions and Reinstatements *continued from previous page*

COLEMAN, Claire Cecilia (Claire Cooper COLEMAN; Coleman Cooper COLEMAN) (RN 226085)
Phoenix, AZ

Disciplined in another state for intentionally hastening the death of a terminally ill cancer patient. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

COLHOUER, Roberta Sue (RN 235595)
Sonoma, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

COLLINS, Gina Aline (RN 423125)
Oroville, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

COOK, Barbara Sandy (aka Jung Nam KOOK) (RN 241847)
Covina, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 2-12-98.

COUNTS, Debra Jane (RN 467906)
Modesto, CA
Disciplined in another state for practicing nursing while impaired and testing positive for controlled substances while on duty. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

DABNEY, Lucille Jenette (RN 250101)
Stone Mountain, GA
Failed to meet the standards of nursing practice in the care of two developmentally disabled children placed in her family home (licensed by the Department of Social Services). Revoked effective 1-15-98.

EKLUND, Ruth Joyce (RN 450519)
Delhi, CA
Tested positive for a controlled substance in a pre-employment drug screen; license denied in another state. Revoked effective 6-25-98.

FARLEY, Twyla J. (PHILLIPS) (RN 270766)
Antelope, CA
Interfered with a medical or nursing procedure; committed gross negligence using an infusion pump. Revoked effective 3-20-98.

FIELD, Thomas Joseph (FIELDS) (RN 475501)
Stockton, CA
Convicted of offenses related to driving under the influence of alcohol, including battery and threatening a police officer; multiple theft convictions. Revoked effective 4-12-98.

FINERTY, Edward James (RN 223935)
Rohnert Park, CA
Practiced nursing without an active license. Revoked effective 6-29-98.

FRANKLIN, Roslyn Marie (HAMILTON) (RN 447827)
Daly City, CA
Gross negligence, which included sleeping while on duty. Revoked effective 3-20-98.

GRAEBER, Melody G. (RN 337181)
Talent, OR
Convicted of furnishing and obtaining controlled substances by fraud; causing and permitting harm to dependent adult; theft. Revoked effective 2-14-98.

GULUARTE, Jill Marie (RN 482051)
Lucerne, CA
Unlawful use of controlled substances. Revoked effective 3-13-98.

HAGIWARA, Edeltraud (RN 336981)
Lomita, CA
Convicted of two counts of grand theft while practicing as a private nurse. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

HARRELL, Peggy Ann (RN 336727)
Oakland, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 4-26-98.

HOLLINS, Marvin Dewayne (RN 493646)
Sacramento, CA
Convicted of possession of a controlled substance for sale. Revoked effective 3-20-98.

IKARI, Stella Marie (MENDOZA) (RN 350886)
Pico Rivera, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 1-22-98.

JOHNSON, Kaylin Douglas (RN 478893)
Huntington Beach, CA
Obtained, possessed, and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

KLAT, Susan Viola (RN 361910)
Alexandria, VA
Convicted of a threat to assault an officer or employee of the United States and a United States judge. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

LARDIE, Richard Leslie (RN 241848)
Alameda, CA
Diverted controlled substance for self-use. Revoked effective 6-20-98.

McCOMB, Jamie Lynn (REDMOND; ARCHER) (RN 494488)
Mission Viejo, CA
Obtained, possessed, and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Revoked effective 6-25-98.

MECCHI, Carlena Myrle (MARSHALL) (RN 469690)
Napa, CA
Tampered with controlled substances, diverted for self-use, and exposed patients to tampered medications. Revoked effective 4-17-98.

ONEBY, Merna M. Cochran (COCHRAN) (RN 177954)
West Los Angeles, CA
Reported for work under the influence of alcohol. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

PETTY, Lisa R. (ROBBINS; WALL) (RN 302396)
Sacramento, CA
Taped cloth restraint over a patient's mouth, placing the patient at risk; knowingly administered overdose of a controlled substance to a patient. Revoked effective 3-25-98.

PHILLIPS, Toni Lenore (RN 339120)
West Hollywood, CA; Los Angeles, CA
Failed to administer and document the disposition of medications. Revoked effective 2-20-98.

PRICKETT, Sarah Adelaide (RN 151848)
Longmont, CO
Obtained controlled substances from a facility for own use and administered to another illegally. Revoked effective 6-19-98.

RUSSO, Charlotte (RN 149785)
Los Angeles, CA
Convicted of cruelty to a child by inflicting injury and corporal injury to a child. Revoked effective 3-13-98.

SANCHEZ, Jose Luis (RN 378101)
Vallejo, CA
Admitted to an alcohol abuse problem and using alcoholic beverages prior to reporting to work; abandoned unit post. Revoked effective 4-29-98.

SANTIZO, Dorothy Santizo (Sabina D. PRINCE; Sabina Passerero SANTIZO) (RN 201948)
Novato, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

SCHLEICHER, Connie La Rue (ZIERLEIN) (RN 205556; Nurse Anesthetist 574)
Marksville, LA; Mansura, LA
Disciplined in another state for misrepresenting that she had not been arrested or charged with a criminal offense. Revoked effective 5-29-98.

SOLOMON, Marilou A. (RN 229309)
San Mateo, CA
Grossly negligent when attempting to reprogram an infusion machine resulting in drug overdose. Revoked effective 1-23-98.

SOSA, Jr., Rodolfo (Rudy SOSA) (RN 327424)
Oceanside, CA
Convicted of possessing a controlled substance for sale. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

SPONSLER, Virginia Ann (RN 308815)
Eureka, CA
Grossly negligent in administration of medications. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

STRAND, Stephen Raymond (RN 328050; NP 4337)
Dinuba, CA
Convicted of presenting false claims for services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Revoked effective 6-25-98.

Disciplinary Actions and Reinstatements *continued from previous page*

VAILLANCOURT, James A. (RN 324778)
Morro Bay, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 4-9-98.

WHEATON, Loretta Lynn (VIEAU)
(RN 391319)
Fortuna, CA
Possessed controlled substances illegally. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

WHITE, Kimiko Ellen (RN 496858)
Sacramento, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 6-28-98.

WILSON, William Donald Henry
(RN 466462)
Grand Lake, AL
Disciplined in another state for testing positive for a controlled substance on the job. Revoked effective 3-25-98.

ZWARTKRUIS, Marjoleine Christine C.
(RN 295621)
Walnut Creek, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revoked effective 3-25-98.

SURRENDER OF LICENSE

ALLISON, Beth (SMITH) (RN 319797)
Willits, CA
Violated terms of probation. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

DEMEYER, Theresa D. (HUTCHINSON)
(RN 318507; PHN 41831)
Holtville, CA
Unlawfully used credit cards and deposited State of California warrants. Surrender effective 5-30-98.

GILL, Virginia Rose (RN 334566)
Laguna Nigel, CA
Caused severe burns to a baby's foot by applying a wet diaper warmed in a microwave. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

JUSTICE, Denise Lucinda (RN 393570)
Santa Barbara, CA
Charges: Violated terms of probation. Surrender effective 4-23-98.

KASMAR, Nancy Large (Nancy Jean LARGE; Nancy Jean Large Gribskov KASMAR) (RN 259536; NP and NPF 2091)
Bellevue, WA
Disciplined in another state for engaging in inappropriate relationships with two research participants in a clinic. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

MARKELL, Mary Hope (ARMSTRONG)
(RN 461793)
Silverado, CA
Charges: Gross negligence, incompetence, and unprofessional conduct. Surrender effective 6-26-98.

PARMENTIER, Roberta Claudette
(RN 212673)
Mcalester, OK
Disciplined in another state when found unable to practice professional nursing. Surrender effective 3-25-98.

PEFFER, Douglas James (RN 483565)
Ceres, CA
Obtained, possessed, and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

RAINEY, Patty Sue (BREEDEN)
(RN 443066)
Atwood, TN
Charges: Possessed and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

SEXTON, Beverly A. (RN 385448)
Seaside, CA
Violated terms of probation. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

SEXTON, Patricia Louise Dyson Skalbeck (SKALBECK) (RN 310500)
Upland, CA
Tested positive for alcohol while working in a psychiatric intensive care unit. Surrender effective 6-4-98.

VANNEIL, Kathleen Mary (RN 507548)
Webster, NY
Charges: Disciplined by another state based on conduct while employed and practicing the profession of nursing. Surrender effective 6-28-98.

WILLIAMSON, Gail Helen (RN 122897)
Woodland Hills, CA
Violated terms of probation. Surrender effective 5-29-98.

SUSPENSION

FOSS, Susan M. (KIRSCHENBAUM)
(RN 333594)
Bakersfield, CA
Inappropriate behavior while on duty in a critical care unit. Indefinite suspension until determined by physical/mental examination that she is able to practice safely. Suspension effective 6-20-98.

REVOCATION STAYED, SUSPENSION, PLACED ON PROBATION

CASWELL, Teresa Maria Gonzales
(RN 270149)
Simi Valley, CA
Failure to exercise ordinary precautions in administration of a controlled substance to an infant. Revocation stayed; suspension for 30 days, with three years' probation effective 6-25-98.

SUNTIKUL, Sukanya (RN 337099)
Granada Hills, CA
Failed to adequately monitor patient during labor; failed to aggressively monitor fetus. Revocation stayed; suspension for 30 days, with three years' probation effective 4-16-98.

TADIOSA, Carmen R. (Carmencita R. TODIOSA) (RN 495769)
San Jose, CA
Failed to ensure that patient's blood glucose was monitored and that monitoring device was appropriate; failed to follow physician orders and recognize the serious nature of patient's condition. Revocation stayed; suspension for 30 days, with three years' probation effective 6-28-98.

WHITE, Gail Lee (RN 352507)
Stockton, CA
Failed to exercise ordinary precaution when the wrong valve was turned on a venous line that administered an overdose of medication. Revocation stayed; suspension for 30 days, with three years' probation effective 6-25-98.

REVOCATION STAYED, PLACED ON PROBATION

ARRIBAS, Irving Cruz (RN 480667)
Haywood, CA
Convicted of infliction of injury on a spouse. Revocation stayed; placed on two years' probation effective 4-24-98.

ASUNCION, Isagani Martin (RN 480680)
Fairfield, CA
As owner and supervisor of a board and care facility, failed to assure proper diet for a resident. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-28-98.

BARRON, Khin Swe (RN 244921)
West Sacramento, CA.
Failed to provide proper provision and supervision for the personal hygiene of patients and protection of patients from health and safety hazards. Revocation stayed; placed on two years' probation effective 5-30-98.

BARTLETT, Linda (RN 440101)
Shoreline, CA
Slapped a facility resident. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-28-98.

BECKER, Stacey Lynne Shirley
(RN 470604)
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Charged with self-administering a controlled substance without a valid prescription. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-20-98.

BURKE, David Patric (RN 487164)
Sacramento, CA
Failed to obtain patient's consent to draw blood; failed to notify physician about patient's refusal to have blood drawn, and forcibly dragged the patient back to her room. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 4-26-98.

CADIENTE, Wilfredo Fontejon (RN 175921)
Los Gatos, CA
Made numerous late entries in patients' records. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-7-98.

CLARIN, Bernardita (Dela Cruz CLARIN) (RN 433692)
Van Nuys, CA
Administered intravenous injection of potassium chloride instead of a Lasix push. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 2-5-98.

COELHO, Carrie Ruth (GANCI; HODGSON) (RN 358106)
Fresno, CA
Admitted to using alcohol to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself. Revocation stayed; placed on five years' probation effective 4-29-98.

CONNELLY, Shirley Ann (RN 518364)
Fremont, CA
Disciplined in another state. Inappropriately exceeded professional boundaries with a psychiatric patient. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-28-98.

CORBETT, Aron Lee (RN 481301)
Newport Coast, CA
Failed to assess a patient, ensure examination by a physician, act as patient advocate, and document the patient visit; took an incident report from an office. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 4-24-98.

DAVIS, Harriette Lee (RN 456120)
Berkeley, CA
Violated terms of probation. Probation extended for two years effective 6-25-98.

ELLIS, Ezra Ellis (RN 397520)
Merced, CA
Convicted of engaging in sexual activity with a consenting adult confined in a detention facility. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-30-98.

GIMPLIN, Penny L. (RN 376776)
Huntington Beach, CA
Failure to follow facility policies and procedures regarding the administration and dosage of allergy antigens, and treating allergies and allergic reactions. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-20-98.

HELFRICH, John Robert (RN 403827)
Napa, CA
Obtained and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-26-98.

HENDERSON, Marilyn Patricia Merchant (MERCHANT) (RN 380440)
Las Vegas, NV
Obtained, possessed, and self-administered a controlled substance illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on one year's probation effective 5-24-98.

HERNANDEZ, Brenda Kay (RN 470017)
Costa Mesa, CA
Convicted of drunk driving, hit and run; obtained and self-administered controlled substances illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-30-98.

JUSTICE, Sharon Kay Connelly (RN 413175)
Destin, FL
Obtained and possessed controlled substances for self-use illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on four years' probation effective 6-28-98.

LONGNECKER, Angie Maria (RN 405217; PHN 46085)
San Diego, CA
Obtained controlled substances illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-24-98.

MADDEN, Linda Gail (RN 255156)
Bakersfield, CA
Falsified, made grossly incorrect, inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in hospital and patient records pertaining to controlled substances. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 4-29-98.

MAKIN, M. Elaine (Elaine M. MAKIN; Mary Elaine MAKIN) (RN 233508)
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Violated terms of probation. Revocation stayed; placed on two years' extended probation effective 4-24-98.

MARSH, Bonnie S. (Bonnie S. Bomse MARSH) (RN 293417; NMW 815)
Encinitas, CA
Accepted a high-risk patient for home birth; failed to immediately contact physician backup and failed to ensure that standard of practice was met. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-20-98.

MORRIS, Cynthia A. (DULL; LONGACRE) (RN 305908)
Redding, CA
Forged a signature on a narcotic controlled drug record; altered nursing notes/flow sheets; failed to make notations in a patient medical record. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-27-98.

MUGOL, Gay-Pura Pador (Gay-Pura Mabasa PADOR; Gay-Pura Mabasa Pador MUGOL) (RN 504479)
Torrance, CA
Administered oral fluids inappropriately to a patient who was experiencing a diabetic-related episode. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-30-98.

O'BANION, Mary Ellen (SCHULTZE; LEMMELIN) (RN 262696)
Tustin, CA
Obtained controlled substance illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-26-98.

O'LEARY, Kathleen (RN 292719; NMW Certificate 497)
Berkeley, CA
Fraudulently prescribed and obtained controlled substances illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-28-98.

PARK, Myung Ja (Susan PARK) (RN 262316)
Irvine, CA
Failed to assess a postoperative Caesarean section patient condition and reaction to treatment; failed to monitor a postpartum patient; failed to notify a physician. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 3-1-98.

PASTRANA, Lucy Christine (RN 258786; PHN 28823)
San Francisco, CA
Practiced beyond the scope of nursing. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 4-17-98.

REID, Emy Jurgensen (RN 284471; NP 5371)
Shasta Lake, CA
Obtained and possessed controlled substances or dangerous drugs for self-use illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 2-14-98.

RODRIGUEZ, Jose Valdes (RN 100992)
Los Angeles, CA
Violated terms of probation. Probation extended for one year effective 6-28-98.

SMITH, Tamara Maxine (RN348483)
Pasadena, CA
Repeatedly failed to record patient medication administration of controlled substances. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 6-26-98.

SNAPPER, Jean Evonne (RN 235251)
Huntington Beach, CA
Obtained controlled substance or dangerous drug for self-use illegally. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' and six months' probation effective 5-7-98.

VICTORIO, Davife M. Matusalem (MATUSALEM) (RN 189375)
Covina, CA
Created and presented paperwork supporting a false claim for home care nursing. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 2-12-98.

WILLIAMS, Jr., Johnnie McGee (RN 411832)
American Canyon, CA
Inappropriate response to patient provocation. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation effective 5-14-98.

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE GRANTED, PLACED ON PROBATION

ALNAS, Deborah Ann (BROWN) (RN 541619)
Hollister, CA
Act involving battery and corporal punishment of a child. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 3-11-98.

Disciplinary Actions and Reinstatements *continued from previous page*

ARBANAS, Gregory Christopher (RN 544236)

Mountain View, CA

Convicted of offenses related to driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs and causing bodily injury. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 6-19-98.

BIERFREUND, Scott Albert (RN 538789) Fairfield, CA

Convicted of offenses related to driving under the influence of alcohol and causing bodily injury. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 3-11-98.

BLAZE, Deborah Kathleen (RN 544432) Chowchilla, CA

Convicted of petty theft/shoplifting. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 6-28-98.

LASATER, Thomas Peter (RN 550381) Modesto, CA

Convicted of offenses related to driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 4-9-98.

RAMDEHOLL, Shanta (RN 523336) Concord, CA

Convicted of malicious mischief/vandalism and theft; failed to disclose conviction on her application for licensure. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 6-28-98.

STEFFY, Megan Lynn (RN 543762) Ventura, CA

Convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol and disorderly conduct/public intoxication; failed to disclose conviction on application for licensure. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 5-30-98.

STROMAN, Russell Vaughn (RN 542745) Encinitas, CA

Convicted of driving while intoxicated, assault in the fourth degree, and disorderly conduct. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 4-12-98.

TRAMMEL, Sally Patricia (DAY) (RN 544436)

Marina Del Rey, CA

Convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol. Failed to disclose conviction on application for licensure. Revocation stayed; three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 6-28-98.

TROHON, Fe Evadne Somis, CA

Act involving infliction of corporal injury on spouse. Revocation stayed; placed on three years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 3-1-98.

WILSON, Eugene William (RN 543295) Paramount, CA

Vocational nurse license disciplined in California for convictions relating to illegally obtaining controlled substances. Revocation stayed; placed on two years' probation upon issuance of license, effective 5-7-98.

LICENSE REINSTATED, PLACED ON PROBATION

BAKER, David Leon (RN 334165)

Westminster, CA

Placed on five years' probation effective 3-16-98.

JANFAZA, Delshad Samandari (RN 476013) La Mesa, CA

Placed on three years' probation effective 5-22-98.

ROBERTS, John (RN 327360)

Los Angeles, CA

Placed on five years' probation effective 3-17-98.

WRIT OF MANDAMUS

ERVIN, Thomas Lee (RN 510195)

San Diego, CA

Remanded back to the Board from Superior and Municipal Courts on August 27, 1997.

Discipline in California based on discipline in another state. Revocation stayed; three years' probation effective 5-27-98.



Explanation of Disciplinary Language

Convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of an RN—Can apply to such crimes as embezzlement, child abuse, spousal abuse, battery, theft from a patient or client, or failure to report abuse. This list is for illustration only and is not all-inclusive of the acts for which the Board may discipline an RN's license.

Effective (date)—Indicates the date the disciplinary action goes into operation.

Gross Negligence—An extreme departure from the standard of practice for RNs. An extreme departure means the **repeated** failure to provide the required nursing care or failure to provide care or exercise precaution in a **single situation** which the nurse knew, or should have known, could result in patient harm.

Incompetence—Lack of knowledge or skill in discharging professional obligations as an RN.

Probation—Allows the licensee to practice as an RN under certain restrictions for a set period of time.

Revocation Stayed, Suspension, Probation—The license is revoked. However, the revocation is "stayed," or set aside temporarily, pending successful completion of the suspension of practice and probation requirements. Violations of the suspension or probation may result in lifting of the "stay" and imposition of the revocation.

Revoked—The license is canceled, or voided, and the license holder no longer has the right to practice as an RN or to use the title.

Stayed—The action does not immediately take place and may not take place if other conditions (such as probation terms) are met.

Stipulation—The accusation has been filed and the case is negotiated and settled prior to hearing. This is similar to an out-of-court settlement in civil suits.

Surrender—The licensee agrees to turn in her or his license subject to specific conditions of surrender. A surrender is valid only if it is accepted by the Board.

Suspension—The licensee is prohibited from practicing as an RN for a specific or indefinite period of time.

Writ—A licensee files an appeal in Superior Court asking the court to overturn the Board's disciplinary decision.



BRN Bulletin Board

Have you moved or changed your name?

If you have moved or changed your name, you are required to notify the BRN. Title 16, California Code of Regulations Section 1409.1 mandates that all licensees notify the BRN of any change in name or address within 30 days of the change. You must provide the BRN with both the former and new name and your current address, as appropriate. Written notification can be sent to the attention of the Renewals Unit at the BRN.

How to Obtain the Nursing Practice Act

This publication may be obtained by sending a check or money order for \$9.95, payable to "Procurement Publications," to:

**Procurement Division
Publications Section
P.O. Box 1015
North Highlands, CA 95660
Phone (916) 574-2200**

To expedite the processing of your order, please request Publication #7540-957-1108-5. UPS provides delivery and will not deliver to a P.O. Box; please include a street address.



1999 Board Meetings

April 8–9
San Francisco

June 3–4
Los Angeles

September 9–10
Sacramento

December 2–3
Los Angeles

The public is invited to attend. Locations will be listed on the meeting notice and agenda for each Board meeting.

Disciplinary matters will be scheduled the first day of each meeting. For verification of meetings, please call (916) 324-2715.



Guide for Using the BRN Phone System

DIAL (916) 322-3350 to reach the BRN.

When you hear the greeting, you can direct your call by pressing one of the following numbers. You do not need to wait for the greeting or menu to finish before pressing a number.

PRESS "1" to reach the automated license verification system.

Use this option if you know the permanent RN license number and wish to know the status, expiration date, issuance date, advanced practice certification, or other key data. In California, you can also reach this verification service by calling 1-800-838-6828.

PRESS "2" to reach the Examination and Licensing Program.

For use by applicants for initial licensure, certification, or examination, and for verification of interim permits and temporary licenses.

PRESS "3" to reach the Renewals Program.

Use this option to ask a renewal question, file an address change, or to reach other RN licensee services.

PRESS "4" to reach the Diversion Program.

Use this option to inquire about the rehabilitation program for RNs who may be impaired by chemical dependency or mental illness.

PRESS "5" to file a complaint about a registered nurse.

This option transfers the caller to the Enforcement Program.

PRESS "6" to obtain recorded information on a variety of topics.

For example, BRN address; how to endorse from California to another state; application process for continuing education providers; referrals regarding vocational nurses, psychiatric technicians, certified nursing assistants, or home health aides.

PRESS "0" for all other inquiries.

The BRN also has an automated 24-hour, toll-free, license verification number: 1-800-838-6828

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the BRN report

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