

REPRIMAND WITH CONSENT

SUSAN RHYNO

Maitland, N. S.

CLPNNS, Reg. #5458



On May 8, 2003, a Complaints Committee of the CLPNNS (College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia) ordered that pursuant to Section 24 (1) (c) (v) of the

Licensed Practical Nurses Regulations and with Ms. Rhyno's consent, Ms. Rhyno be issued a reprimand for professional misconduct.

In a letter of complaint dated June 20, 2002 the complainant alleged that Ms. Rhyno witnessed and participated in an assault of her person and failed to take the appropriate action(s) deemed those of a Licensed Practical Nurse in a supervisory position.

Reasons for Reprimand

Information presented to the Complaints Committee outlined a breach by Ms. Rhyno to the Code of Ethics – of accountability, integrity and respect/dignity (Ref LPN Code of Ethics, 1999).

Standard 1 – Accountability

- failed to demonstrate the basic values and beliefs of the profession through example and behavior
- failed to promote the role of the Licensed Practical Nurse in a positive manner

Standard 2 – Integrity

- failed to comply with the Code of Ethics, the Act and Regulations as defined by provincial legislature

Standard 3 – Respect/Dignity

- failed to demonstrate respect for the patient at all times and in all aspects of patient care Ref (information was provided that a resident may have witnessed the incident)

It further outlined a breach of the LPN Standards of Practice (1999)

Standard 1 – The LPN

- failed to practice within legally defined scope of practice, professional standards of practice and job descriptions defined by employers
- failed to demonstrate ethical behavior, and ensure that unethical practices are reported

- failed to act as a role model
- failed to promote a positive working environment
- failed to take a leadership role

Standard 2 – The LPN

- failed to maintain and utilize effective communication techniques Ref (failed to report the incident to the nursing supervisor immediately upon her return to the Nursing Unit)

Standard 3 – the LPN

- failed to utilize judgement in all activities related to patient care Ref (the resident possibly witnessing the incident)

Standard 5 – The LPN

- failed to develop positive working relationships with other members of the health care team

The Committee unanimously found that Ms. Rhyno's actions inappropriate and that the allegations were proven. The Committee found Ms. Rhyno's actions constituted professional misconduct and issued a reprimand with consent.

On May 20, 2003 Ms. Rhyno consented to the reprimand.