

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL
LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION**

BOARD OF NURSING

**In Re: Susan Golden, RN
RN Lic. # 056626-21**

Docket No.: 2023-NUR-017

**ORDER OF EMERGENCY
SUSPENSION - 03/23/23**

I. CASE SUMMARY/PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

On or about 02/16/23, the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Division of Enforcement (“OPLC Enforcement”), acting on behalf of the Board of Nursing (“Board”), received a complaint alleging concerns that Susan Golden, RN (“Licensee”), employed by Elmwood Center at Claremont, had made five medication errors during her shift on 02/06/2023 and an additional seven medication errors from 2/11/2023 into 2/12/2023. The medication errors were alleged to be “serious.” The Complaint also stated the Licensee failed to assess a “Resident” properly following three falls. The Licensee’s employment was terminated. On 03/23/23, the Board voted to suspend the Licensee’s license on an emergency basis pursuant RSA 541-A:30(III), RSA 310-A:1-m, RSA 326-B:37(IV), N.H. Code Admin. R., Title Nur 402.03(a) (“Rules”), and/or N.H. Code Admin. R., Title Plc 206.07 (“Plc”). This Order of Emergency Suspension follows.

II. LEGAL STANDARD:

“In cases involving imminent danger to public health, safety, or welfare, the board may order the immediate suspension of a license pending an adjudicative proceeding.” RSA 326-B:37, IV. The Board has further interpreted that to mean: “[w]hen the board receives information indicating that a licensee

has engaged misconduct that poses an immediate danger to public health, safety, or welfare, the board shall, pursuant to RSA 326-B:37, IV, immediately suspend such person’s license ...” Rule 402.03(a).

II. EVIDENCE PRESENTED AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

A. Evidence Presented

The Board was presented with and/or considered the following evidence: 1) Complaint, (dated 02/16/2023).

B. Findings of Fact

The Licensee is actively licensed in New Hampshire as a Resident Nurse (“RN”) with license number 056626-21. The Licensee was previously employed at Elmwood Center at Claremont. On 02/16/2023 OPLC Enforcement received a complaint that the Licensee had made five medication errors during her shift on 02/06/2023 and an additional seven medication errors from 2/11/2023 into 2/12/2023. The medication errors made by the Licensee were alleged to be “serious,” despite her receiving education and a “medication Pass Competency” completed on 02/10/2023. The Complaint also stated the Licensee failed to assess a “Resident” properly following three falls. The Licensee’s employment was terminated.

IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The Board finds there is a reasonable basis to suspend the Licensee’s RN New Hampshire license on an emergency basis. The central facts are straightforward— Licensee is alleged to have failed to administer medication in a safe and appropriate manner despite receiving corrective education. The representations presented within the complaint indicate that the Licensee does not appear to have the requisite knowledge or skill to properly assess residents following falls or other incidents. These facts demonstrate that the Licensee poses an imminent threat to the public health, safety, or welfare, especially vulnerable nursing home patients. Despite the Licensee’s termination of employment, the Board, using its knowledge and expertise in the profession, finds the Licensee’s ability to regain employment utilizing her

License to be easily attainable. The Licensee's conduct, on its face, therefore, warrants immediate emergency suspension of her license pursuant to RSA 541-A:30(III) and RSA 326-B:37(IV), pending a follow-up emergency suspension hearing. Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 402.03(a), such conduct also appears, on its face, that it may be misconduct as defined at RSA 326-B:37, II(e), (h), (k), and/or (l).

IV. ORDERS:

Pursuant to RSA 541-A:30(III), RSA 310-A:1-m, and 326-B:37(IV), the Board hereby orders the immediate emergency suspension of Susan Golden's license as an RN, pending a follow-up emergency hearing in this matter. A Notice of Emergency Hearing with an appropriate date/time shall follow forthwith.

DATED: 3/24/2023

_____/s/ Shane D. Goulet, Esq. _____
Hearings Examiner
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