

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS
131 AIRLINE DRIVE, SUITE 301
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70001-6266
(504) 838-5791
FAX (504) 838-5279
www.lsbpne.com

August 11, 2017

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
7016 2140 0000 8456 3911

Joanne Lacassin
201 Sigma St.
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

License # 952467

Dear Ms. Lacassin:

The Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners has received a report regarding your practice as a licensed practical nurse. The report is concerning an incident that occurred at Bayside Healthcare Center. It alleges that on or about July 18, 2017, you were observed by security cameras tampering with medication cards. You punched out Norco from residents' medication cards and replaced the cards with Tylenol. Additionally, it was discovered that you replaced Tramadol with Carvedilol (high blood pressure medication). Your actions could have caused serious adverse effects and harm to residents. You were reported to the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office for theft.

Louisiana Revised Statutes, 49:961 (C), in pertinent part, provides: "If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to the effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." LSA-R.S. 49:961(C).

The Board has determined that the allegations against you are sufficiently serious to **summarily suspend your LPN license**, in accordance with the above cited authority, and hereby, issues the following Order:

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that based on the information and/or record(s) obtained by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners, and a finding "that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action", in accordance with LSA-R.S. 49:961(C), the LPN license of the above named respondent, **Joanne Lacassin**, is hereby summarily suspended, pending proceedings for revocation or other action, in accordance with Louisiana law.

M Lynn Ansardi, RN

Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners
M. Lynn Ansardi, RN, Executive Director

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You must *immediately* cease and desist the practice of practical nursing and return your current practical nursing license to the Board office.

The board will schedule your case for the next available formal hearing and will notify you by mail of the date and time. Moreover, the board will continue its investigation of the allegations against you, about which you will be notified by formal complaint, to determine if you are in violation of the following:

- 2. being guilty of a crime;**
- 3. being unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence, habit or other causes;**
- 4. being habitually intemperate or addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;**
- 8. being guilty of unprofessional conduct;**
 - a. failure to practice practical nursing in accordance with the standards normally expected;**
 - b. failure to utilize appropriate judgment in administering nursing practice;**
 - e. performing procedures beyond the authorized scope of practical nursing;**
 - g. improper use of drugs, medical supplies, or patients' records;**
 - h. misappropriating personal items of an individual or the agency;**
 - j. intentionally committing any act that adversely affects the physical or psychosocial welfare of the patient;**
 - n. being convicted of a crime or offense which reflects the inability of the nurse to practice practical nursing with due regard for the health and safety of clients or patients or enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal charge regardless of final disposition of the criminal proceeding including, but not limited to, expungement or nonadjudication or pardon;**
 - o. being guilty of moral turpitude;**
 - q. using or being under the influence of alcohol, while on duty, and/or while making application for employment, or using or being under the influence of drugs which impair judgment while on duty, or using or being under the influence of illegal drugs whether on or off duty;**
 - r. possess a physical or psychological impairment which interferes with the judgment, skills or abilities required for the practice of practical nursing;**
 - t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.**

Louisiana Revised Statute, Title 37, Chapter 11. Nurses, Part II. Practical Nurses, Section 969, et. seq.

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Furthermore, you should immediately submit to our office a detailed narrative response to the allegation as well as a history of your employment for the last five years.

Sincerely,

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Lynn Ansardi, R.N." The signature is written in a cursive style.

M. Lynn Ansardi, R.N.
Executive Director

MLA/kp