



STATE OF MAINE
 BOARD OF NURSING
 158 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA, MAINE
 04333-0158

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
 GOVERNOR

MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEFORE THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE NO.)
 R024800 ISSUED TO:)
)
KATHY G. DAHMS)
)
 To practice registered professional)
 nursing in the State of Maine)
 -----)

**ORDER TERMINATING
 PROBATION**

WHEREAS, on **August 25, 1999**, License No. **R024800** issued to **Kathy G. Dahms** was placed on "probation" pursuant to 32 M.R.S.A. Section 2105-A (1-A); and

WHEREAS, on **October 18, 2001**, the Board of Nursing duly considered all evidence presented to it concerning **Kathy G. Dahms'** compliance with the conditions of said probation; and

WHEREAS, the Board found that **Kathy G. Dahms** has completed all of the Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered that the Order of Probation executed on **October 6, 1999** is hereby terminated.

DATED this **7th day of November 2001**.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

BY: *Myra Broadway*
 Myra A. Broadway, J.D., M.S., R.N.
 Executive Director



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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IN RE: **KATHY G. DAHMS, R.N.) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**
 of South Portland, Maine) **FOR PROBATION WITH**
 License #R024800) **CONDITIONS****

INTRODUCTION

This document is a Consent Agreement regarding Kathy G. Dahms' license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5)(B) and 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(1-A). The parties to this Consent Agreement are Kathy G. Dahms, Maine State Board of Nursing ("Board") and the Department of Attorney General, State of Maine. The parties reached this Agreement following an informal conference on August 25, 1999 regarding information submitted by Mercy Hospital by letter dated November 23, 1998.

FACTS

1. Kathy G. Dahms has been a registered nurse for 18 years and licensed by the Board to practice in Maine since September 3, 1981.
2. Kathy G. Dahms admits that she diverted narcotics for her own use during a period of April 1998 through November 1998.
3. When the drug diversion was discovered on November 3, 1998, she stopped drug use on her own. She then entered a substance abuse program.
4. Kathy G. Dahms' former employer Mercy Hospital has indicated that her nursing credentials are exemplary. Ms. Dahms submitted to the Board several letters of support indicating a substantial support system to assist her in her recovery.
5. Kathy G. Dahms has completed a formal substance abuse and aftercare program.
6. Kathy G. Dahms stated that this is a short-term substance abuse situation.
7. Kathy G. Dahms took the initiative to find an on-line aftercare program called Nurses in Recovery (NIR) and has volunteered in a mentor program that addresses issues of substance abuse.



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8. Kathy G. Dahms is currently enrolled in a "Family Nurse Practitioner Program" at the University of Southern Maine.

AGREEMENT

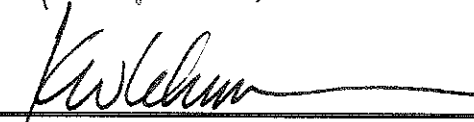
9. Kathy G. Dahms agrees and understands that her conduct constitutes grounds for discipline under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(A), (2)(B), (2)(F) and (2)(H).
10. Kathy G. Dahms' license to practice registered professional nursing is placed on a probationary status, with conditions, for a period of 2 years. The conditions are as follows:
 - A. Kathy G. Dahms will remain substance free, with the exception of substances used in accordance with a valid prescription from a physician who is aware of Ms. Dahms' substance abuse history.
 - B. Kathy G. Dahms will continue in a aftercare program to address the issues surrounding her substance abuse problem.
 - C. Kathy G. Dahms will arrange for and ensure that quarterly reports are submitted to the Board from her employer when she resumes the practice of nursing. In addition, she will arrange for and ensure that quarterly reports are submitted to the Board from any educational institution or clinical instructor where she is providing clinical care. Ms. Dahms is to inform any employer, where she will be involved in the practice of nursing, of the conditions of her license and to notify the Board on any changes of employment. In addition, Ms. Dahms shall notify the Board of any changes in her nursing status and when she begins her clinical rotation in her nurse practitioner program.
 - D. After two years from the effective date of this Agreement, Ms. Dahms may petition the Board to terminate the probationary status of her license. Ms. Dahms agrees and understands that her license will not be removed from probationary status until and unless the Board, upon Ms. Dahms' written request, votes to terminate the probationary status of Ms. Dahms' license. When considering whether to terminate Ms. Dahms' license from probationary status, the Board will consider the extent to which Ms. Dahms has complied with these conditions.
11. The Board agrees to take no further disciplinary action upon these facts so long as Ms. Dahms fully complies with these conditions.
12. Kathy G. Dahms understands that this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. Ms. Dahms understands that she does not have to execute this Consent Agreement. She has the right to consult with an attorney before entering the Consent Agreement.
13. Modification of this Consent Agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.

- 14. Kathy G. Dahms affirms that she executes this Consent Agreement of her own free will.
- 15. This Consent Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
- 16. This Consent Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

DATED: 10/1/99


KATHY G. DAHMS, R.N.

DATED: 10/4/99


KENNETH W. LEHMAN
Attorney for Ms. Dahms


FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING:

DATED: 10/6/99


VIRGINIA E. deLORIMIER, M.S.N., R.N.
Assistant Executive Director

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL:

DATED: 10/6/99


JOHN H. RICHARDS
Assistant Attorney General