



Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

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

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

IN RE: MARGARET P. FURLONG, RN )  
of Saint Albans, ME ) **AGREEMENT TO TERMINATE**  
 ) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**  
License No. RN54940 )

**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this Agreement ("Agreement") is to terminate Margaret P. Furlong's Consent Agreement dated February 4, 2010 (the "2010 Agreement") and thereby terminate her period of probation and all terms and conditions imposed by the 2010 Agreement. The parties to this Agreement are Margaret P. Furlong ("Ms. Furlong"), the Maine State Board of Nursing ("the Board"), and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine.

**FACTS**

1. Margaret P. Furlong was licensed by the Board to practice as a registered professional nurse ("RN") in Maine on May 9, 2008.
2. On February 4, 2010, Ms. Furlong entered into the 2010 Agreement with the Board, placing her nursing license on probation for a term of five years. The 2010 Agreement is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit A.
3. By letter received February 12, 2013, Ms. Furlong requested that the Board amend the probation imposed by the 2010 Agreement, paragraph 15 of which states: "Modification of this Agreement must [be] in writing and signed by all parties."
4. On March 6, 2013, Ms. Furlong appeared before the Board and requested that her probation be terminated.
5. The Board considered the following information pertaining to Ms. Furlong's request:
  - a. Ms. Furlong's participation in the Medical Professionals Health Program ("MPHP") since February 18, 2011 and correspondence dated February 11, 2012 [sic] from Lani Graham, MD, Director of MPHP, confirming Ms. Furlong's sobriety date of March 24, 2009 and supporting Ms. Furlong's request;
  - b. Ms. Furlong's successful completion prior to the execution of the 2010 Agreement of an intensive out-patient program for substance abuse, followed by a year of counseling with an addictionologist; and
  - c. Quarterly progress reports submitted to the Board's Probation Compliance Officer from Mary Paradis, RN/Director of Nursing, regarding Ms. Furlong's employment at Oak Grove Living & Rehabilitation.



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<http://www.maine.gov/boardofnursing/>

AGREEMENT


6. The Board voted to grant Ms. Furlong's request to modify the 2010 Agreement and thereby terminates the probation imposed in Paragraph No. 7 of the 2010 Agreement and all other terms and conditions under the 2010 Agreement.
7. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S. §402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §408.
8. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.
9. Ms. Furlong acknowledges that she has read and understands this Agreement and has had an opportunity to consult with legal counsel prior to signing it.

Dated: 3-17-13

  
MARGARET P. FURLONG, RN

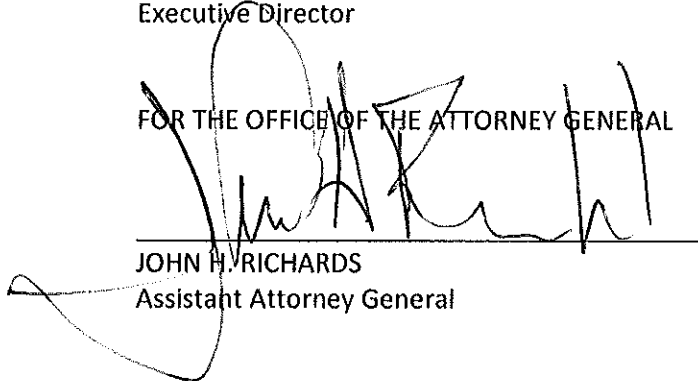
FOR THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Dated: 3/25/13

  
MYRA A. BROADWAY, JD, MS, RN  
Executive Director

FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dated: 3/26/13

  
JOHN H. RICHARDS  
Assistant Attorney General



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

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
 GOVERNOR

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

**IN RE: MARGARET P. FURLONG** ) **CONSENT AGREEMENT**  
 of Saint Albans, Maine ) **FOR**  
 License #R054940 ) **PROBATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Consent Agreement (“Agreement”) regarding Margaret P. Furlong’s (“Ms. Furlong” or “Licensee”) license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The parties to this Agreement are Ms. Furlong, the Maine State Board of Nursing (“Board”) and the Office of the Attorney General, State of Maine. The parties enter into this Agreement pursuant to 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5), (A-1) (4) and 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003(5) (B). On December 3, 2009, the Board met with Ms. Furlong in informal conference. The parties reached this Agreement on the basis of two Notices of Board Complaint/Provider Reports: 1) Notice dated June 17, 2009, with information provided by Robert J. Lodato, M.D., Dexter Internal Medicine, dated May 22, 2009; and 2) Notice dated November 4, 2009, with information from Mayo Regional Hospital (“Mayo”) in Dover-Foxcroft, dated October 23 and 28, 2009.

**FACTS**

1. Margaret P. Furlong has been a registered professional nurse licensed to practice in Maine since May 2008.
2. Margaret P. Furlong was hired by Mayo April 17, 2009 to work as a registered professional nurse in the Intensive Care Unit (“ICU”) because of her experience as a critical care nurse. She was terminated from Mayo on October 19, 2009 because she failed to demonstrate that she could function independently in the ICU and was unable to provide the critical care nursing services that Mayo anticipated. The Board did not take action on this Provider Report.
3. On May 22, 2009, Robert J. Lodato, M.D. reported to the Board that he discovered Ms. Furlong was obtaining controlled substances (Vicodin, Ambien) from four different providers in the fall of 2008.
4. Margaret P. Furlong admits she has a substance abuse problem and has taken steps to seek treatment. She states her substance abuse was a one-time event resulting from personal issues she failed to appropriately address. Ms. Furlong successfully completed an Intensive Out-Patient Program for substance abuse at MaineGeneral in the spring of 2009; she has remained in full compliance with her aftercare treatment program. She is currently in treatment with Matthew Sommons, M.D. at MaineGeneral in Waterville; frequent urine drug screen monitorings have been conducted and Ms. Furlong’s tests have been negative for substance abuse.
5. In lieu of an adjudicatory hearing, Ms. Furlong has agreed to enter this Agreement with the Board.



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PHONE: (207) 287-1133

FAX: (207) 287-1149

### AGREEMENT

6. Margaret P. Furlong understands and agrees that based upon the above-stated facts, this document imposes discipline regarding her license to practice registered professional nursing in the State of Maine. The grounds for discipline for violations are under 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A(2)(B), (2)(F), (2)(H) and Chapter 4, sections 1(A)(2), 1(A)(6), 1(A)(8) and Chapter 4, section 3(Q) of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Specifically, the violations are:
  - a. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (B). Habitual substance abuse that has resulted or is foreseeably likely to result in the licensee performing services in a manner that endangers the health or safety of patients. (See also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.2.)
  - b. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (F). Unprofessional Conduct. Ms. Furlong engaged in unprofessional conduct because she violated a standard of professional behavior that has been established in the practice for which she is licensed. (See also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)
  - c. M.R.S.A. § 2105-A (2) (H). A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the Board. (See also Rule Chapter 4, Section 1.A.6.)
  - d. Rule Chapter 4, Section 3. *Unprofessional Conduct: Nursing behavior which fails to conform to legal standards of the nursing profession, and which could reflect adversely on the health and welfare of the public shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:*

Chapter 4, Section Q. Ms. Furlong possessed, obtained and administered prescription drugs to herself, except as directed by a person authorized by law to prescribe drugs.
7. Margaret P. Furlong's license as a registered professional nurse is placed on probation with conditions for a period of five years, effective only while she is employed in nursing practice and/or enrolled in a clinical nursing education program. For purposes of this Agreement, nursing employment is any employment during which Ms. Furlong performs nursing services. Her probationary license will be subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Margaret P. Furlong shall fully cooperate with the representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of her compliance with probation. She shall inform the Board in writing within 15 days of any address change.
  - b. Margaret P. Furlong will abstain completely from the use of alcohol or drugs, with the exception of substances used in accordance with a valid prescription from a health care provider who is aware of her substance abuse history.
  - c. Margaret P. Furlong must enroll and participate in the Maine Professionals Health Program and continue in her aftercare treatment program to such an extent and for as long as her treatment providers recommend.
  - d. Margaret P. Furlong will arrange for and ensure the submission of quarterly reports to the Board by her treatment providers until her probation is terminated. If her treatment is terminated during her probation, she shall notify the Board and provide written documentation.
  - e. Margaret P. Furlong will notify the Board in writing within five business days after she obtains any nursing employment and/or an educational program in the field of nursing. Notice under this

section shall include the place and position of employment or the nursing educational program. If during the period of probation, Ms. Furlong's employment as a nurse or her educational program in the field of nursing terminates, she shall notify the Board in writing within five business days after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, with a full explanation of the circumstances.

f. Margaret P. Furlong will notify any and all of her nursing employers and faculty involved in any clinical studies of the terms of this Agreement and provide them with a copy of it.

g. Margaret P. Furlong will arrange for and ensure the submission to the Board of quarterly reports from her nursing employer and/or clinical faculty regarding her general nursing practice, which are to include clinical competency, ability to follow policies and procedures relative to standards of practice, and clinical documentation.

h. Margaret P. Furlong's employment is restricted during the period of probation to structured settings with on-site supervision by another registered professional nurse. Structured settings shall not include assignments from temporary employment agencies, home health, school nursing, work as a travel nurse, or within the correctional system.

i. Margaret P. Furlong agrees and understands that the Board and Office of the Attorney General shall have access to any and all medical records and all otherwise confidential or medically privileged information pertaining to her treatment for substance abuse which the Board deems necessary to evaluate her compliance with the Agreement and her continued recovery. Ms. Furlong shall provide such information, authorize the release of such records and information, and authorize any such discussions and communications with any and all persons involved in her care, counseling and employment as may be requested by the Board.

8. Margaret P. Furlong agrees and understands that her license will remain on probationary status and subject to the terms of this Agreement beyond the five-year probationary period until and unless the Board, at her written request, votes to terminate her probation. When considering whether to terminate the probation, the Board will consider the extent to which Ms. Furlong has complied with the provisions of this Agreement.
9. Margaret P. Furlong understands and agrees that if any member of the Board or the Board's Executive Director receives reasonably reliable information suggesting that she has not remained substance-free in accordance with this Agreement, her license will be immediately and automatically suspended pending further review by the Board. In the event any member of the Board or its Executive Director receives such information, it will be immediately forwarded to Ms. Furlong for response. Ms. Furlong understands and agrees that in such an event, her license shall remain suspended pending a hearing. The Board shall hold a hearing within 60 days of the automatic suspension unless both the Licensee and the Board agree to hold the hearing later, or the Executive Director and/or Office of the Attorney General earlier determine that such information is without merit. If the information received is proven to be inaccurate or incorrect, either through hearing or determination by the Executive Director and/or Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Furlong's license will be immediately reinstated retroactive to the date of suspension.
10. If Ms. Furlong violates any other condition of her probation, the Board will give written notice to the Licensee regarding her failure to comply. Notice will be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the Licensee that is on file with the Board. The Licensee has 30 days from receipt of this notification to respond to the Board, in writing, regarding the alleged violation. The Board will review the Licensee's timely response to determine what action,

if any, it determines to take. If the Licensee fails to timely respond to the Board's notification regarding her failure to comply, her license will be immediately suspended pending a hearing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. If after notice and a hearing, the Board finds that the Licensee has failed to meet the conditions of probation, the Board may take any disciplinary action which it deems appropriate and impose any of the sanctions including, but not limited to, that found in Title 10 M.R.S.A. § 8003 and Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 2105-A.

11. The State of Maine is a "party state" that has adopted the Nurse Licensure Compact ("Compact"), which is set out in Chapter 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the Maine State Board of Nursing. The State of Maine is Ms. Furlong's "home state" of licensure and primary state of residence, which means she has declared the State of Maine as her fixed permanent and principle home for legal purposes; her domicile. Other party states in the Compact are referred to as "remote states," which means party states other than the home state that have adopted the Compact. Ms. Furlong understands this Agreement is subject to the Compact. She agrees that during the pendency of this Agreement, her nursing practice will be limited to the State of Maine as it pertains to the Compact. If she wishes to practice in any other party state within the Compact, she shall arrange to have the party state in which she intends to practice provide the Board with written authorization that she has been approved to practice in that state.
12. This Agreement is a public record within the meaning of 1 M.R.S.A. § 402 and will be available for inspection and copying by the public pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 408.
13. Margaret P. Furlong understands that she does not have to execute this Agreement and has the right to consult with an attorney before entering into the Consent Agreement.
14. Margaret P. Furlong affirms that she executes this Agreement of her own free will.
15. Modification of this Agreement must in writing and signed by all parties.
16. This Agreement is not subject to review or appeal by the Licensee, but may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court.
17. This Agreement becomes effective upon the date of the last necessary signature below.

**I, MARGARET P. FURLONG, R.N., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONSENT AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THE EFFECT IT WILL HAVE ON MY REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE LICENSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY, KNOWINGLY, AND INTELLIGENTLY AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THIS CONSENT AGREEMENT CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND.**

DATED: 02-02-2010

  
MARGARET P. FURLONG, R.N.

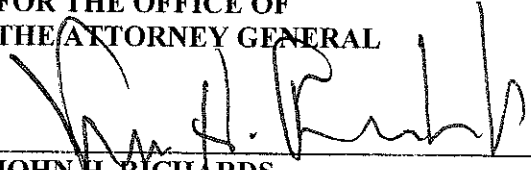
**FOR THE MAINE STATE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

**DATED:** Feb 3, 2010

  
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**MYRA A. BROADWAY, J.D., M.S., R.N.**  
Executive Director

**FOR THE OFFICE OF  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**DATED:** 2/4/10

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**JOHN H. RICHARDS**  
Assistant Attorney General