

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK COUNTY

BOARD OF REGISTRATION  
IN NURSING

In the Matter of )  
MARK P. CROFT )  
RN License No. 264616 )  
License Expiration Date 7/24/16 )

Docket Nos. NUR-2014-0010  
NUR-2014-0112 & 2015-0225

CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Board) and Mark P. Croft (Licensee), a Registered Nurse (RN) licensed by the Board, License No. 264616, do hereby stipulate and agree that the following information shall be entered into and become a permanent part of the Licensee's record maintained by the Board.

1. The Licensee acknowledges that complaints have been filed with the Board against his Massachusetts Registered Nurse license (license<sup>1</sup>) related to the conduct set forth in paragraph 2, identified as Docket Nos. NUR-2014-0010, NUR-2014-0112 and NUR-2015-0225 (the Complaints).
2. The Licensee agrees that if this matter were to proceed to hearing, the Board could find that he engaged in the following conduct:
  - a) From about April 2013 through December 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department of the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, MA, the Licensee engaged in improper, unreliable and unsafe nursing practices in his handling, administration, documentation and wastage of narcotic controlled substances, and diverted narcotic controlled substances for his own use;

<sup>1</sup> The term "license" applies to both a current license and the right to renew an expired license.

- b) From about 2009 through April 2014, while employed as a Registered Nurse at AdCare Hospital in Worcester, MA, the Licensee diverted Gabapentin, Atenolol and Zofran from the facility for his own use; and
- c) From about June 1, 2015 to September 24, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA, the Licensee engaged in improper, unreliable and unsafe nursing practices in his handling, administration, documentation and wastage of narcotic controlled substances, and diverted narcotic controlled substances for his own use.
3. The Licensee acknowledges that if the Board found that he engaged in the conduct in paragraphs 2 (a – c) it would constitute failure to comply with the Board's Standards of Conduct at 244 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 9.03(5), (35), (37), (39), and (47) and warrants disciplinary action by the Board under Massachusetts General Laws (G.L.) Chapter 112, section 61 and Board regulations at 244 CMR 7.04, Disciplinary Actions.
4. The Licensee agrees to **SURRENDER** his nursing license for an indefinite period, commencing with the date on which the Board signs this Agreement (Effective Date).
5. After the Effective Date of this Agreement and when the Licensee can complete to the satisfaction of the Board all of the requirements set forth in this Paragraph the Licensee may petition the Board for reinstatement of his license. The petition must be in writing and must include the following documentation of the Licensee's ability to practice nursing in a safe and competent manner, all to the Board's satisfaction:
- Evidence of completion of all continuing education required by Board regulations for the two (2) renewal cycles immediately preceding the date on which the Licensee submits his petition ("petition date");
  - A performance evaluation sent directly to the Board from each of the Licensee's employers, prepared on official letterhead that reviews the Licensee's attendance, general reliability, and specific job performance during the year immediately prior to the petition date<sup>2</sup>.
  - Written verification sent directly to the Board from each of the Licensee's medical care providers, which meets the requirements set forth in Attachment B 1;

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<sup>2</sup> If the Licensee has not been employed during the year immediately prior to the petition date, he shall submit an affidavit to the Board so attesting.

- d. A report of a mental health evaluation, prepared within thirty (30) days of the petition date and sent directly to the Board, which meets the requirements set forth in Attachment B 2<sup>3</sup>.
  - e. Authorization for the Board to obtain a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) report of the Licensee conducted by the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (DCJIS).
  - f. Documentation that the Licensee has completed, at least one (1) year prior to the petition date, all requirements imposed upon him in connection with all criminal and/or administrative matter(s) arising from, or related to, the conduct identified in Paragraph 2<sup>4</sup>. Such documentation shall be certified and sent directly to the Board by the appropriate court or administrative body and shall include a description of the requirements and the disposition of each matter.
  - g. Certified documentation from the state board of nursing of each jurisdiction in which the Licensee has ever been licensed to practice as a nurse, sent directly to the Massachusetts Board identifying his license status and discipline history, and verifying that his nursing license is, or is eligible to be, in good standing and free of any restrictions or conditions.
  - h. Submit documentation that he has successfully completed the following continuing education<sup>5</sup> after the Effective Date,
    - i. Six (6) contact hours of continuing education on the topic of "Medication Administration and Documentation in Nursing that includes the topic of Maintaining the Security of Medications",
    - ii. Six (6) contact hours of continuing education on the topic of "Legal and Ethical Aspects of Nursing",
    - iii. Six (6) contact hours of continuing education on the topic of "Critical Thinking and Judgment in Nursing Practice"; and
    - iv. Three (3) contact hours of continuing education on the topic of "Pain Management in Nursing".
6. In addition to the items identified in Paragraph 5, the Licensee shall submit the following documentation of the Licensee's stable and fully sustained recovery

<sup>3</sup> May be incorporated into the addictionologist evaluation.

<sup>4</sup> If there have been no criminal or administrative matters against the Licensee arising from or in any way related to the conduct identified in Paragraph 2, the Licensee shall submit an affidavit so attesting.

<sup>5</sup> These continuing education courses must be *in addition to* any contact hours required for license renewal. They may be taken as home study or as correspondence course, *provided that* they meet the requirements of Board Regulations at 244 CMR 5.00, Continuing Education.

from substance abuse, dependency and/or addiction for three (3) years immediately prior to the petition date, all to the Board's satisfaction:

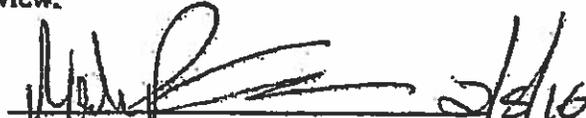
- a. The results of random supervised urine tests for substances of abuse sent directly to the Board and collected from the Licensee according to the conditions and procedures outlined in Attachment A, no less than fifteen (15) times per year during the two (2) years immediately preceding the petition date. All such results are required to be negative.
  - b. Documentation that the Licensee has obtained a sponsor and has regularly attended Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and/or Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings at least three (3) times per week during the two (2) years immediately preceding the petition date. This documentation must include a letter of support from the Licensee's sponsor and signatures verifying the required attendance.
  - c. Documentation prepared within thirty (30) days of the petition date and sent directly to the Board from a licensed mental health provider verifying that the Licensee has regularly attended group or individual counseling or therapy, or both, conducted by the mental health provider. Such documentation shall specify the frequency and length of the therapy and/or counseling and shall include a summary of the Licensee's progress in therapy and specific treatment recommendations for the Licensee's sustained recovery from substance abuse, dependency and addiction.
7. The Board may choose to reinstate the Licensee's license if the Board determines that reinstatement is in the best interests of the public at large. Any reinstatement of the Licensee's license may be conditioned upon the Licensee entering into a consent agreement for the PROBATION of his license for a duration and including requirements, that the Board determines at the time of relicensure to be reasonably necessary in the best interests of the public health, safety and welfare.
  8. The Licensee agrees that he will not practice as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts from the Effective Date unless and until the Board reinstates his license<sup>6</sup>.
  9. The Board agrees that in return for the Licensee's execution of this Agreement it will not prosecute the complaints.

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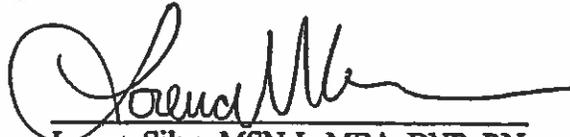
<sup>6</sup> The Licensee understands that practice as a Registered Nurse includes, but is not limited to, seeking and/or accepting a paid or voluntary position as a Registered Nurse, or a paid or voluntary position requiring that the applicant hold a current Registered Nurse license. The Licensee further understands that if he accepts a voluntary or paid position as a Registered Nurse, or engages in any practice of nursing after the Effective Date and before the Board formally reinstates her license, evidence of such practice shall be grounds for the Board's referral of any such unlicensed practice to the appropriate law enforcement authorities for prosecution, as set forth in G. L. c. 112, ss. 65 and 80.

- 10. The Licensee understands that he has a right to formal adjudicatory hearing concerning the allegations against him and that during said adjudication he would possess the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses, to call witnesses, to present evidence, to testify on his own behalf, to contest the allegations, to present oral argument, to appeal to the courts, and all other rights as set forth in the Massachusetts Administrative Procedures Act, G. L. c. 30A, and the Standard Adjudicatory Rules of Practice and Procedure, 801 CMR 1.01 *et seq.* The Licensee further understands that by executing this Agreement he is knowingly and voluntarily waiving his right to a formal adjudication of the complaints.
- 11. The Licensee acknowledges that he knows that he has the right to consult with an attorney before signing this Agreement.
- 12. The Licensee acknowledges that after the Effective Date, the Agreement constitutes a public record of disciplinary action by the Board. The Board may forward a copy of this Agreement to other licensing boards, law enforcement entities, and other individuals or entities as required or permitted by law.
- 13. The Licensee certifies that he has read this Agreement. The Licensee understands and agrees that entering into this Agreement is a final act and not subject to reconsideration, appeal or judicial review.

  
 Witness (sign and date)

  
 Mark P. Croft  
 Licensee (sign and date)

  
 Witness (print name)

  
 Lorena Silva, MSN-L, MBA, DNP, RN  
 Executive Director  
 Board of Registration in Nursing

February 17, 2016  
 Effective Date of Surrender Agreement

Fully Signed Agreement Sent to Licensee on Feb. 17, 2016 by Certified

Mail No. 7015-1520-0002-8254-5142