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Janet Napolitano
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

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October 6, 2004

RICHARD PUCZKO
3549 W. Lenihan Lane
Tucson AZ 85742

RE: CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear RICHARD PUCZKO:

The Board of Nursing has received information that you have been representing yourself as a nurse, RN, GN, or professional nurse. On or about August 28, 2004, you submitted an online application for a position as a staff nurse with University Medical Center in Tucson, Arizona. In September 2004, you proceeded to accept this position, receive an employee ID badge, and attend employee orientation. There is no record at the Board of Nursing that validates you hold a license to practice nursing in the State of Arizona.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1666(A)(1)(2): It is unlawful for a person who is not licensed or certified under this chapter to: (1) Practice or offer to practice professional or practical nursing in this state. (2) Represent or use any title, abbreviation, letters, figures, sign, card or device to indicate that the person or any other person is a registered, graduate or professional nurse.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1636: Only a person who holds a valid and current license to practice professional nursing in this state or in a party state pursuant to section 32-1668 may use the title "nurse", "registered nurse", "graduate nurse" or "professional nurse" or the abbreviation "R.N."

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1606 (A) (4) The Board may refer criminal violations of this chapter to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1667(2): A person is guilty of a class 6 felony who: (2) Engages in any conduct prohibited in section 32-1666.

The Arizona Board of Nursing demands that you immediately cease and desist implying to the public of Arizona that you are a nurse (RN).

Be advised that the Board will turn your case over to the appropriate law enforcement agency and proceed with criminal action in a court of law.

If you have any questions regarding our investigation of the complaint, please contact Thereasa Berry, at 602-889-5208.

Sincerely,

Joey Ridenour, R.N., M.N.

Executive Director

/trb

cc:

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Office of the Attorney General
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