



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

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Via Certified and First Class Mail
December 28, 2012

KARI SOTO
1517 N WILMOT RD #226
TUCSON AZ 85712

AND

KARI SOTO
7012 E. HAWTHORNE ST.
TUCSON, AZ 85710

RE: CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear KARI SOTO:

The Board of Nursing has received information that you have been representing yourself as a registered nurse, RN, or nurse. On or about May , 2012 you submitted fraudulent documentation to the Arizona State Board of Nursing claiming to be a nursing licensee (C. R.) with a recent name change to "Kari Soto". The documentation included the actual licensee's social security number and address of record (Washington). You submitted application for both a name change and address change to a P.O. Box in Tucson, Arizona. You additionally requested that a "duplicate" nursing license be issued to you reflecting both the "name change" and "address change". Based upon information you submitted, a license was issued to you under the name of Kari Soto, address 1571 N. Wilmot Rd. #226, Tucson Arizona 85712.

You subsequently used the license, a fraudulent employment application and resume to obtain employment with CharDonnay Dialysis, Inc as a registered nurse. After you began employment with CharDonnay as a registered nurse, they identified several discrepancies between your stated background and actual background. They released you from employment and referred the matter to the Arizona State Board of Nursing. In review of all available documents, interviews with the actual licensee (C.R.) and other witnesses, it has become evident that you submitted fraudulent court records to the Board of Nursing for the intent to take a nurse's identity and that you have fraudulently represented to the public that you are a licensed nurse. ***The Arizona Board of Nursing has found no evidence to support you have completed a program of study or received a valid license to practice nursing in Arizona or any other state.***

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."

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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) and demands that you immediately return to the Arizona State Board of Nursing the license that you obtained by fraudulent means. The license may be returned by mail or in person to the address listed above, attention Valerie Smith, MS, RN, FRE.

Be advised that the Board, will forward your case to the Office of the Attorney General for review for potential criminal charges.

If you have any questions regarding our investigation of the complaint, please contact Valerie Smith, MS, RN, FRE, Consultant to the Executive Director at 602-771-7804.

Sincerely,



Joey Ridenour, R.N., M.N., F.A.A.N.
Executive Director

vs

cc:

Mark A. Roberts and/or James Schweggel
Office of the Attorney General
1275 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2926