



Agenda Item: III.E.2.

Doug Ducey
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

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March 18, 2016

Melissa Sue Gomez
4140 E. 17th Street
Tucson Az 85711

RE: CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear Ms. Gomez:

The Board of Nursing has received information that you have been representing yourself as a licensed practical nurse. You failed to notify Kindred Hospital Tucson of the revocation of your license on December 30, 2015, and continued employment as a nurse until on or about March 18, 2016, when your employer discovered the revocation while verifying licensure status.

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 as a registered or practical nurse, registered nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist 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 nurse, graduate nurse, professional nurse, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or practical nurse.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1636(B): Only a person who holds a valid and current license to practice practical nursing in this state or in a party state as defined in A.R.S. 32-1668 may use the title "nurse", "licensed practical nurse" or "practical nurse" or the abbreviation "L.P.N."

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 (LPN).

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

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If you have any questions regarding our investigation of the complaint, please contact Dolores Hurtado, Senior Investigator at (602) 771-7845.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Joey Ridenour in cursive script.

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

/JD:dh

cc:
Special Agent Supervisor
Medicaid Fraud
Office of the Attorney General
1275 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2926

Karen L. Morton
Director of Quality Management
Kindred Hospital Tucson
355 North Wilmot Road
Tucson, AZ 85711