



Doug Ducey
Governor

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Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

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June 23, 2021

Carol Brinkman
[REDACTED]

RE: CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear Ms. Brinkman:

The Board of Nursing has received information that you presented yourself in the state of Arizona as a nurse practitioner. When you made a patient/provider home visit in Arizona to a former patient. It is alleged that you took the patient's blood and evaluated her and advised the patient to take some supplements. In addition you called a compounding pharmacy in Arizona and prescribed bio-identical hormones for the patient.

However, based upon a review of nurse licensing databases, you do not have an Arizona nursing license, nor an advanced practice (nurse practitioner) certification, or a privilege to practice nursing in Arizona.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1666 (A) 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 and (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, practical nurse, licensed nursing assistant or certified nursing assistant.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1636 (A) Only a person who holds a valid and current license to practice registered 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) The Board may: (4) Refer criminal violations of this chapter to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Carol Brinkman
June 23, 2021
Page 2

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1667 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 or and advanced practice nurse (RN/AP).

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 Dolores Hurtado, Senior Investigator, at (602) 771-7845.

Sincerely,



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

cc:
Supervisory Special Agent
Office of Attorney General
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit
2005 N. Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Melinda Preston, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC
