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December 4, 2003

First Class and Certified Mail Number 7001 1940 0003 4516 6397

Maribel Ann Gonzalez
8550 E. Kiowa Avenue
Mesa, Arizona 85208

RE: CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear MARIBEL A GONZALEZ:

The Board of Nursing has received information and documentation indicating that you have been representing yourself as a licensed practical nurse and that you have presented an altered LPN license, with a number belonging to another individual, in order to secure employment as an LPN.

- 1) In November 2003, you applied for and presented yourself to Arizona Medical Exchange as an LPN. You submitted a resume in which you state that you had been employed as a licensed practical nurse since May 2000 and had received an Associates Degree in Nursing from Pima Medical Institute;
- 2) On or about December 2002, you applied for and accepted a position as an LPN at Desert Terrace Nursing Center. From January 2003 to November 2003 you were employed and performed LPN duties at this facility. On your application for employment, signed and dated December 11, 2002, you state that you had been previously employed as an LPN. On or about November 21, 2003 you were terminated from employment after submitting a fraudulent CPR card;
- 3) From May 4, 2002 to January 1, 2003, you were employed with Great Dane Nursing Registry as a licensed practical nurse. You accepted assignments and performed duties as an LPN in various facilities.
- 4) From July 23, 2001 to to June 4, 2002, you were employed with the Chandler Unified School District as a Health Assistant. On your application for employment, signed by you and dated May 3, 2001, you state that you are a licensed nurse.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1666(A)(1)(3): 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. (3). Represent or use any title, abbreviation, letters, sign, card or device to indicate that the person or any other person is a licensed practical nurse or a certified nursing assistant.

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Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1641: Only a person who holds a valid and current license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in this state or in a party state as defined in A.R.S. 32-1668 may use the title "nurse", "licensed practical nurse", "practical nurse" or the abbreviation "L.P.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 (LPN).

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 Valerie Smith, Associate Director of Investigations at (602)331-8111, ext. 145.

Sincerely,

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

cc:

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