

IN THE MATTER OF

*

BEFORE THE MARYLAND

NENE UDUMA

*

BOARD OF NURSING

MULTISTATE LICENSING

*

OAG CASE NO. 23 – BP – 073

PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE

*

REGISTERED NURSING

(Florida- License No.: RN9597175)

* * * * *

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF MULTI-STATE LICENSING PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSING PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-226(c)(2) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the “Board”) hereby orders the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** of the Multi-State Licensing Privilege to Practice Registered Nursing (**FLORIDA- RN-License No. RN9597175**) of **NENE UDUMA** (the “Respondent”). The Board takes this action pursuant to the authority of Maryland Code Ann., State Government Article (“SG”) § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), which provides:

- (2) A unit may order summarily the suspension of a license if the unit:
 - (i) finds that the public, health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action; and
 - (ii) promptly give the licensee:
 - 1. Written notice of the suspension, the finding and the reasons that support the finding; and
 - 2. An opportunity to be heard.

The Board has reason, as set forth below, to find that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action (“SG”) § 10-226(c) (2).

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**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS AND REASONS IN SUPPORT
OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

Based on investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to the Board, the Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true:¹

1. On or about October 6, 2003, the Respondent was issued a license to practice as a licensed practical nurse (“LPN”) in the State of Maryland, license number LP38540. The Respondent’s LPN license is currently active and is scheduled to expire on March 28, 2025. The Compact² status of the Respondent’s Maryland LPN license is “Multistate.” According to the Maryland Board’s My License Office (“MYLO”) database, the Respondent’s current address is in the State of Maryland.

2. On or about April 29, 2022, the Florida Board of Nursing (“Florida Board”) issued the Respondent a license to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Florida, license number RN9597175. The Respondent’s Florida RN license is active and scheduled to expire on April 30, 2025. The Compact³ status of the Respondent’s Florida RN license is “Multistate.”

¹The statements regarding the Respondent’s conduct identified herein are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the asserted facts. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this action.

² The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) is an agreement between Boards of Nursing of party states that allows nurses to have one Multistate nursing license with the ability to practice nursing in both their home state and other party states. In accordance with the Nurse Licensure Compact, Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-7A-01.3(h) and § 8-7A-01.3(m) respectively, “Home state” means the party state that is the nurse’s primary state of residence and, “Party state” means any state that has adopted this Compact.

³ Under the Multi-state Licensure Compact (“Compact”), Maryland Nurse Practice Act § 8-7A-01, Florida is a compact state and the Respondent is allowed to practice under the multi-state licensing privilege in any State that is a party to the Compact. The State of Maryland is a party to the Compact.

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II. BACKGROUND

United States of America v. Eunide Sanon, Case No. 23-60013-CR- Moreno

Criminal Information

3. On January 23, 2023, in the United States District Court Southern District of Florida, Case No.: 23-60013-CR-Moreno/Strauss, a criminal Information was filed alleging that Eunide Sanon committed Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud.

Change of Plea/ Factual Basis in Support of Plea

4. On March 14, 2023, Eunide Sanon entered a plea of Guilty and the Court accepted the plea of guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud.

5. The Court found there was a factual basis for the plea as provided in the *Factual Basis in Support of Plea* below:

Defendant Eunide Sanon, a resident of Broward County, was the Owner, Registered Agent, and Manager of Siena Education and Siena College (collectively Siena).

....

From or about November 17, 2018, through in or around October 2021, in Broward and Palm Beach Counties, in the Southern District of Florida, and elsewhere, Eunide Sanon, ..., and others sold false and fraudulent diplomas and educational transcripts to co-conspirators which falsely represented that the co-conspirators had completed the necessary courses and/or clinical training to obtain nursing degrees from Siena when in fact that co-conspirators had never completed the necessary courses and/or clinical training.

....

Eunide Sanon..., and others mailed and caused others to mail, by United States Postal Service, fake diplomas, transcripts, and other false and fraudulent documents to co-conspirators and to state licensing agencies, including NYSED, on behalf of the co-conspirators.

....

Using the false and fraudulent continuing education certifications, diplomas, transcripts, and other fraudulent documents, Eunide Sanon,, and others assisted co-conspirators to obtain fraudulent nursing licenses from state licensing agencies, and ultimately employment in the healthcare field.

Co-conspirators used the false and fraudulent diplomas, transcripts, and other documents created and distributed by Eunide Sanon and others, to fraudulently

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obtain employment and benefits at various unwitting health care providers throughout the country.

Affidavit of Eunide Sanon

6. In a notarized affidavit, signed on December 15, 2022, Eunide Sanon declared under penalties of perjury the following information was true and correct:

I owned and operated Siena Education Center, LLC, doing business as Siena College of Health (“Siena”) from its incorporation on or about October 20, 2003 to its dissolution on or about September 23, 2022. Siena was located at 7491 Oakland Park Boulevard, Suite 100, Lauderhill, Florida 33319.

Siena was licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education and the Florida Board of Nursing and was authorized to offer medical programs to include a practical nursing program and an Associate in Science degree. The objective of the programs was “to provide quality education to students seeking careers in medically related fields.”

....

Siena was authorized to offer an Associate in Science nursing program. This was a 90-week program consisting of 74 semester hours including at least 50% clinical training. The objective of this program was “to prepare students for employment as Registered Nurses.”

....

From in or around November 2017 to in or around October 2021, Siena College of Health may have issued transcripts and diplomas to 2,016 individuals listed in Attachment B, who did not complete the required program hours and clinical training necessary to obtain either a practical nursing diploma and transcript or a nursing associate in science degree and transcript.

7. The Respondent’s name is listed in Attachment B of the Affidavit, along with the Respondent’s date of birth (DOB) and social security number (SSN) indicating that the Respondent did not complete the requisite program hours and clinical training necessary to obtain a nursing Associate in Science degree and transcript.

DISCUSSION

8. In a signed affidavit, Eunide Sanon, owner and operator of Siena Education Center, LLC, provided a list of individuals who did not complete the required program hours and clinical training

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at Siena College of Health, necessary to receive a transcript or a nursing associate in science degree. The Respondent was identified on the list by name, DOB, and SSN.

9. The Respondent does not meet the Board's statutory and regulatory requirements for RN licensure in Maryland.

10. The Respondent holds an active, compact RN license in Florida with a multistate privilege to practice in the State of Maryland. The Respondent's ability and opportunity to practice as an RN in the State of Maryland and/or any compact state on a fraudulently obtained RN license poses a serious risk and danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing investigative findings and reasons, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in this case pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.).

ORDER

It is hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Nursing by Maryland Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226(c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.) the Multi-State Licensing Privilege (Florida-License No. **RN9597175**) of **NENE UDUMA** to practice as a registered nursing in the State of Maryland is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

ORDERED that there will be a Show Cause Hearing on **Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.** before the Board at the Maryland Board of Nursing offices, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215; and be it further

ORDERED that if, the suspension of the Respondent's multi-state licensing privilege is continued following a Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent has the right to a full evidentiary

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hearing before the Board and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board if the Respondent submits a written request for an evidentiary hearing to the Board **no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Board’s written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing;** and be it further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the Board for an evidentiary hearing within 30 days from the date of the Board’s written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent shall have waived all rights now and in the future to any hearing on the merits of the summary suspension of the Respondent’s Multi-State Licensing Privilege (Florida-**License No. RN9597175**) and the factual allegations contained in this Order for Summary Suspension; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order for Summary Suspension shall remain in effect and the summary suspension of the Respondent’s multi-state licensing privilege to practice (Florida-**License No. RN9597175**) shall continue until further Order of the Board; and it is further

ORDERED that this, “Order for Summary Suspension of Multistate Licensing Privilege to Practice Registered Nursing” is a **PUBLIC RECORD** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101 *et seq.* & § 4-333 (2019).

July 31, 2023
Date

Rhonda Scott, JD, BSN, CRNI, SD-CLTC
The Interim Executive Director's Signature
Appears on the Original Document