



November 1, 2012

In re: Board of Nursing Annual Report

The Hon. Joan Carter Conway, Chairman
Senate Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Hon. Peter A. Hammen, Chairman
House Health and Government Operations
Committee
241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Conway and Delegate Hammen:

The Board of Nursing submits the following as required by the Sunset Review Evaluation, 2012:

- Annual report in accordance with Health Occupations Article, §8-205(a)(8), Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- Report on the implementation and use of the Sanctioning Guidelines for discipline required by Chapters 583 and 534 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2010.

The following information will be reported annually to the General Assembly in accordance with Health Occupations Article, §8-205(a)(8), Annotated Code of Maryland.

FISCAL YEAR 2012

License Renewals and Certifications

Initial Licenses and Certificates issued by the Board	21,327
Renewal Licenses and Certificates issued by the Board	256,564

Criminal History Record Checks

Positive Criminal History Record Checks	2,669
Negative Criminal History Record Checks	16,663

Denial of Licenses and Certificates

Denial for Positive Criminal History Record Check	6
Denial for other reasons	2

Complaints

Received in Fiscal Year 2012	3,364
Open Complaints at year end	585
FY12 Completion Rate	82.6%

Most Common Grounds for Complaints

- Positive Criminal History Record Check
- Standard of Care Violations
- Discipline in another State
- Abuse (includes verbal and physical abuse)
- Substance Abuse


Disciplinary Actions taken by the Board

Summary Suspension	70
Revocation	74
Reprimand	45
Probation	32
Reciprocal Discipline	288
Denial of License or Certificate	8

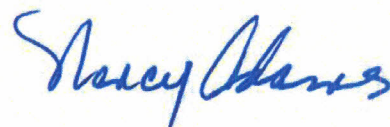
Use of Sanctioning Guidelines

Regulations for sanctioning guidelines were adopted in March, 2012, under COMAR 10.29.26. In March, 2012, pending adoption, the Board used the guidelines for the first time. Board members find the guidelines to be helpful by providing a useful framework for decisions. The guidelines have been especially useful to the new Board members who have not had prior experience in deliberating cases and recommending the appropriate discipline.

Respectfully submitted ,



Patricia A. Noble, RN, MSN
Executive Director



Nancy Adams, RN, MBA
Board President