

# Nine Things

## Your Attorney Wants You to Know About Your Nursing License

Your professional license is critical to your livelihood. It allows you to work in the state of Washington as a nurse. An unblemished license also stands as a symbol of your professional integrity. As such, you should be deeply concerned by any investigation or allegations that involve it. Accordingly, you should be aware of the following:

- 1.** Criminal arrests can affect your license. You might consider that shoplifting charge or DUI to be unrelated to your profession as a nurse, but the Department of Health might. Be sure to consult with a professional licensure attorney before you decide to accept that plea bargain.
- 2.** Any sort of discipline can have a significant effect on your livelihood. Discipline can range from a reprimand to “probation,” suspension or revocation of your license and are matters of public record. Future employers will be chilled by the discipline and might look to someone with a clean record to hire.
- 3.** Your licensing body is a regulatory authority and not your friend. Investigators for the Department of Health might seem nice, but they are there to enforce regulations. Talk to an attorney before you talk to them.
- 4.** Things that happen to your license affect your ability to get other, unrelated licenses. If you lose one professional license, it will make it harder, if not impossible, to obtain other licenses. So, if something happens to your nursing license, it will complicate your ability to become licensed in dozens of other professions.
- 5.** What happens to your license in one state affects your licenses in other states. Discipline crosses state lines. You will have to report the discipline to other states that you are licensed in and it might impact your ability to obtain a license. Do not think that you can simply move away from your problems.
- 6.** Your licensing body has tremendous power over livelihood, so be sure to get along with them. Think of it as a part of your job to have a professional relationship with the staff of your licensing body.
- 7.** Do not surrender your license without having consulted an attorney. Surrendering a license can inhibit your ability to obtain other licenses for the rest of your life!
- 8.** Your license is the key to you practicing your profession. Without it, you cannot be a nurse.
- 9.** Do not take your license for granted.

### We help you protect your livelihood.

You put in the sweat equity building your business. You spent years getting to where you are. You put in long hours to do a great job and get ahead only to be denied a promotion, raise, or worse, fired, or held back because of who you are.

Do not let others take away what you have labored long and hard for. Let the attorneys at Seattle Litigation Group assist you in protecting your ability to support yourself and your family. We are experienced attorneys who can guide you through the bureaucratic maze that is our court system. We understand the critical importance of keeping you working or your business open. **Call now for a free appointment.**