

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

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In the Matter of Charges and Complaint

Case No. 22-35103-1

Against:

VERONICA ARREY AKEM, RRT,

Respondent.

FILED

JAN 11 2022

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: _____

COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through Ian J. Cumings, J.D., Deputy General Counsel and attorney for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Veronica Arrey Akem, RRT (Respondent) violated the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the IC's charges and allegations as follows:

1. Respondent was at all times relative to this Complaint a Respiratory Therapist holding a suspended license to practice respiratory care in the State of Nevada (License No. RC1676). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on July 14, 2009.

2. Respondent failed to timely renew her National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) certification, resulting in its expiration on December 21, 2019.

3. Respondent was subsequently issued an Order of Suspension of her license to practice respiratory care by the Board on January 2, 2020, pursuant to NAC 630.535 which provides, in summary, if a licensee loses certification by the NBRC or its successor organization, his or her license to practice respiratory care is automatically suspended until further order of the Board.

¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Bret W. Frey, M.D., Chowdhury H. Ahsan, M.D. Ph.D., FACC, and Col. Eric D. Wade, USAF (Ret.).

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
9600 Gateway Drive
Reno, Nevada 89521
(775) 688-2559

1 4. Respondent's Order of Suspension was delivered to her address of record with the
2 Board by USPS Certified Mail on January 6, 2020. A courtesy copy was also emailed to
3 Respondent at her email address on file with the Board.

4 5. Respondent renewed her NBRC certification on January 13, 2020.

5 6. Respondent did not renew her license to practice respiratory care with the Board
6 until June 14, 2021.

7 7. During the period of January 2, 2020, until June 14, 2021, (suspension period)
8 Respondent continued to practice respiratory care in a clinical setting without a Board issued
9 license to do so.

10 **COUNT I**

11 **NRS 630.400(1)(d) – Practice of Respiratory Care Without a License**

12 8. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by
13 reference as though fully set forth herein.

14 9. NRS 630.400(1)(d) prevents any person from practicing respiratory care without
15 being licensed under NRS Chapter 630.

16 10. Respondent was a practicing respiratory therapist when she received an Order of
17 Suspension by the Board on January 2, 2020, advising her that she must not continue to practice
18 without a valid NBRC certification. Respondent ignored this order and continued to practice
19 respiratory care for another seventeen (17) months with a suspended Nevada license.

20 11. Further, NAC 630.540(10) provides that a practitioner of respiratory care is subject
21 to discipline for the practice of respiratory care after his or her license has expired or been
22 suspended.

23 12. Respondent continued to practice respiratory care during the suspension period
24 violating Nevada law and subjecting Respondent to discipline by the Board as provided in
25 NRS 630.352.

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1 **WHEREFORE**, the Investigative Committee prays:

2 1. That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against her and give
3 her notice that she may file an answer to the Complaint herein as set forth in
4 NRS 630.339(2) within twenty (20) days of service of the Complaint;

5 2. That the Board set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early
6 Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);

7 3. That the Board determine what sanctions to impose if it determines there has been
8 a violation or violations of the Medical Practice Act committed by Respondent;

9 4. That the Board award fees and costs for the investigation and prosecution of this
10 case as outlined in NRS 622.400;

11 5. That the Board make, issue, and serve on Respondent its findings of fact,
12 conclusions of law and order, in writing, that includes the sanctions imposed; and

13 6. That the Board take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these
14 premises.

15 DATED this 11 day of January, 2022.

16 INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
17 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

18 By:


19 IAN J. CUMINGS, J.D.

20 Deputy General Counsel

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22 Reno, NV 89521

23 Tel: (775) 688-2559

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25 Attorney for the Investigative Committee

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VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)
 : ss.
COUNTY OF WASHOE)

Bret W. Frey, M.D., having been duly sworn, hereby deposes and states under penalty of perjury that he is the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners that authorized the Complaint against the Respondent herein; that he has read the foregoing Complaint; and that based upon information discovered in the course of the investigation into a complaint against Respondent, he believes that the allegations and charges in the foregoing Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

DATED this 11th day of January, 2022.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 

BRET W. FREY, M.D.
Chairman of the Investigative Committee