

# Secretary of State Announces Nursing License Suspension

**DOVER** – Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock and the state Board of Nursing have suspended the Delaware nursing license of Joanne F. Bogardus in light of recent criminal charges against her related to prescription drugs.

In making this determination, Secretary Bullock and the board considered criminal charges brought by the Delaware State Police, as outlined in a complaint filed with the board by the Delaware Department of Justice. According to the complaint, Ms. Bogardus forged signatures of other nurses to conceal the improper disposal of various narcotic and non-narcotic medications, including oxycodone, morphine, Percocet, Ambien and Xanax. During the time this activity is alleged to have taken place, Ms. Bogardus was intermittently employed as director of nursing at New Castle Health and Rehabilitation Center in New Castle, Del.

Delaware Code Title 24 enables a temporary emergency suspension pending a hearing to be issued upon the written order of the Secretary of State with the concurrence of the board chair, if the activity of the licensee presents a clear and immediate danger to public health, safety or welfare.

The suspension of Ms. Bogardus will remain in effect for a period of 60 days, during which time disciplinary hearings will be held or the final disposition for this individual will take place. As the result of a hearing, the Board of Nursing has the authority to impose disciplinary sanctions up to and including revocation of a practitioner's license or certification.

The licensure status of Ms. Bogardus has been updated on the Division of Professional Regulation's [online license](#)

[verification service](#). A copy of the signed order suspending the license of Joanne F. Bogardus can also be viewed [here](#).