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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD  
RESPIRATORY CARE EXAMINERS**

3 In the Matter of: ) **CASE NO. C003802-18-010397**  
4 )  
4 **ASHLEY ADAMS, RCP** ) **FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS**  
Holder of License No. **010397** ) **OF LAW, AND DISCIPLINARY**  
5 ) **ORDER**  
6 For the Practice of Respiratory Therapy )  
In the State of Arizona )  
7 \_\_\_\_\_ )

8 Ashley Adams, RCP (“Respondent”) appeared before the Arizona Board of Respiratory  
9 Care Examiners (“Board”) for an informal interview on Thursday, April 19, 2018. Following the  
10 testimony of the witness and presentation of evidence, the Board issued the following Order.

11 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

12 1. The Arizona Board of Respiratory Examiners is the duly constituted authority for  
13 licensing and regulating the practice of respiratory care in the State of Arizona pursuant to A.R.S.  
14 § 32-3501, *et seq.*

15 2. Ashley Adams (aka Ashley Hunsaker), RCP, is the holder of License Number  
16 010397 which enables her to practice respiratory care in the State of Arizona. Respondent’s  
17 license was issued on February 9, 2012 and expires on October 1, 2019.

18 3. Under A.R.S. § 32-3501, *et seq.*, the Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject  
19 matter and over Respondent as a licensee of the Board.

20 4. On August 1, 2017, Respondent’s employer terminated her employment with  
21 Honor Health for violation of hospital policy HR 1303, Section 1(F) regarding employee  
22 standards of conduct and the duty to maintain complete and accurate records.

23 5. On July 18, 2017, Respondent documented completing a breathing treatment and  
24 administering medication at 0310 in a patient’s chart when she had not. Respondent also did not  
25 scan medication in patients’ rooms prior to administering medication. Respondent’s Barcode  
26 Scanning Compliance Report indicated 0% compliance with “scanner broken” as the reason that  
the medications were not scanned even though the scanner was not broken.

1 6. On February 14, 2017, Respondent was counseled for documenting the start of  
2 new treatments and arterial blood gases on multiple patients when she had not performed the  
3 actual treatments or tests. A treatment was also found still on a patient during the day shift after  
4 Respondent had charted starting it at 0300 during night shift and had charted post-treatment  
5 values.

6 7. Respondent acknowledged, under Oath, that the conduct alleged did occur and  
7 that she knew the hospital's policies but felt overwhelmed by the large patient assignments.

8 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

9 1. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
10 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.R.S. §  
11 32-3501(9)(d), which states, "Gross incompetence, repeated incompetence or incompetence  
12 resulting in injury to a patient."

13 2. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
14 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and may violate the provisions of A.R.S.  
15 § 32-3501(9)(g), which states "Immorality or misconduct that tends to discredit the respiratory  
16 therapy profession."

17 3. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
18 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and may violate the provisions of A.R.S.  
19 § 32-3501(9)(i), which states, "Any conduct or practice which is contrary to recognized  
20 standards of ethics of the respiratory therapy profession or any conduct or practice which does or  
21 might constitute a danger to the health, welfare or safety of the patient or the public."

22 4. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
23 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.R.S. §  
24 32-3501(10)(k), which states, "Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or  
25 assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate a provision of this chapter."

26 5. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and may violate the provisions of A.R.S.

1 § 32-3501(9)(1), which states, “Failing to report to the board within ten calendar days an incident  
2 or incidents that appear to show the existence of a cause for disciplinary action or that a licensed  
3 respiratory care practitioner is or may be professionally incompetent or is or may be mentally or  
4 physically unable to engage safely in the practice of respiratory care.”

5 6. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
6 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.A.C. R4-  
7 45-214(1), which states, “Engaging in the practice of respiratory care in a manner that harms or  
8 may harm a patient or that the Board determines falls below the community standard.”

9 7. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
10 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.A.C. R4-  
11 45-214(6), which states, “Endangering a patient’s or the public’s physical or emotional health or  
12 safety or engaging in conduct or practice that may reasonably be expected to do so.”

13 8. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
14 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.A.C. R4-  
15 45-214(9), which states, “Acting in a manner that the Board determines, based on community  
16 standards, constitutes incompetence, gross negligence, repeated negligence, or negligence that  
17 results in harm or death of a patient.”

18 9. The conduct described in the Factual Allegations constitutes grounds for  
19 disciplinary action pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3552(A)(3) and violates the provisions of A.A.C. R4-  
20 45-214(16), which states, “Inaccurately recording, falsifying, or altering a patient record,  
21 including a patient chart or medication administration record.”

22 **ORDER**

23 Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, **IT IS HEREBY**  
24 **ORDERED THAT** Ashley Adams, RCP, holder of license number 10397, shall be subject to  
25 the following:  
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- 1           1. **DECREE OF CENSURE.** License No. 010397 held by Ashley Adams, RCP, shall  
2           be **CENSURED.** This Decree of Censure constitutes an official disciplinary action  
3           against the license held by RCP Adams.
- 4           2. **PROBATION.** Respondent shall be placed on a disciplinary Probation for the term  
5           of two (2) years, during which time:
- 6                 a. Respondent shall be required to provide the Board with bi-monthly reports  
7                 from Respondent's supervisor or director addressing Respondent's  
8                 competency, behavior, performance, patient care, and conduct. Obtaining  
9                 these reports is the sole responsibility of the Respondent and must be  
10                received at the Board's office by no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, July,  
11                September, November, January, and March.
- 12               b. Respondent shall appear in person or if residing out of state, telephonically  
13                for interviews with the Board or its designee upon request and reasonable  
14                notice.
- 15               c. Respondent shall bear all costs of complying with this Order
- 16               d. This Order shall remain effective for two (2) years from the effective date;  
17                and, after one (1) year, Respondent may apply to the Board to seek  
18                modification of the Probation upon showing satisfactory compliance with the  
19                Order during the period of probation
- 20               e. If Respondent is noncompliant with this Order in any respect, the Board may  
21                revoke Probation and take further disciplinary action after affording  
22                Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard. If a complaint concerning  
23                noncompliance with this Order is filed against Respondent during the period  
24                of Probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is  
25                final and the period of Probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
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1 **NOTICE**

2 In order to be eligible for judicial review pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 7, Article 6, you  
3 are required to exhaust your administrative remedies by filing a motion for rehearing or review  
4 of the Board's decision within thirty-five days after these Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law,  
5 and Order are mailed to you at your last known address, or thirty days after they are personally  
6 served upon you. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09(B), you are notified that failure to file a  
7 motion for rehearing or review at the Board's office by that date has the effect of prohibiting you  
8 from seeking judicial review of the Board's decision



DATED THIS 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2018.  
ARIZONA BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE EXAMINERS

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Jack Confer  
Executive Director

Original Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Disciplinary Order filed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day April 2018 with the:

Arizona Board of Respiratory Examiners  
1740 West Adams Street, Suite 3406  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Copy of the foregoing sent by certified, regular and electronic mail this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2018 to:

Ashley Adams, RCP  
Address of Record

Copy of the foregoing sent by electronic mail this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2018 to:

Frankie Shinn-Eckberg  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Arizona Attorney General  
2005 N Central Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85004