

July 12, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I hereby tender my immediate resignation from the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). This resignation in no way reflects a lack of commitment on my part to patients' safety in California. I remain wholeheartedly committed to the purpose of the BRN and its critical function.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as a member of this board since 2007. During my tenure on the board I have dedicated myself to defending people from malpractice within the nursing profession, having personally reviewed hundreds of individual cases. The vast majority of nurses in California are of high moral character. They are providing an excellent level of service for the patients under their care. Unfortunately, certain "bad actors" are jeopardizing the reputation of the entire nursing profession. This deeply saddens me.

I have fought to defend the integrity of patient care throughout the state by holding the negligent accountable. However, I have grown increasingly frustrated by the board's lack of ability to achieve its stated objectives in a timely and efficient manner.

Thank you in advance for accepting my resignation. I wish you all the best in your ongoing efforts to protect everyone receiving medical care in California. I am confident that you remain firmly committed to this critical endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Guillen Dutton".

Andrea Guillen Dutton