

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH**

In re: Christopher Lee Bruender, R.N.

Petition No. 2024-79

**STATEMENT OF CHARGES**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health ("the Department") brings the following charges against Christopher Lee Bruender:

1. Christopher Lee Bruender ("respondent") is and has been at all times referenced in this Statement of Charges, the holder of Connecticut registered nurse license number 175208.
2. On or about September 28, 2020, the Department of Public Health ("the Department") accepted a Prelicensure Consent Order in Petition No. 2020-255 ("2020 Consent Order") that placed respondent's nursing license on probation for a period of four (4) years and provided, in part, that:
  - a. respondent submit to observed, random, chain of custody urine screens for drugs and alcohol for the entire probationary period, at an approved testing facility;
  - b. random drug/alcohol screens be negative for the presence of alcohol and drugs, excluding the drugs that respondent's providers prescribe; and/or
  - c. respondent refrain from ingesting poppy seeds in any food substances and that the ingestion of poppy seeds shall not constitute a defense to a positive urine screen for opiates.
3. Respondent violated the terms of the 2020 Consent Order in one or more of the following ways:
  - a. On or about January 3, 2024, respondent abused or utilized to excess opiates and such abuse, or excess use, of opiates does and/or may affect his nursing practice;
  - b. On or about January 3, 2024, respondent tested positive for opiates and/or codeine.
4. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes violations of the terms of probation as set forth in the 2020 Consent Order and subjects respondent's license to revocation or other disciplinary action authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-17 and 20-99(b), including, but not limited to §20-99(b)(5).

THEREFORE, the Department prays that:

The Board of Examiners for Nursing, as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-99(b) and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against the nursing license of Christopher Lee Bruender as it deems appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 6th day of February, 2024.



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Christian D. Andresen, MPH, Section Chief  
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section  
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

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