

Louisiana State Board of Nursing  
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 21, 2000  
TO: Janet Antley, RN  
Ouachita Parish School Nurse Program  
701 St. John Street  
Monroe, LA 71201  
FROM: Patricia Ladner, MN, RN *PL*  
Nursing Consultant for Practice  
RE: Nursing Practice

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This will serve to acknowledge receipt of your request regarding the *scope of practice of a registered nurse in the school setting relative to a narcotic count*. The Law Governing the Practice of Nursing, within its definition of "registered nursing", includes within its definition of the practice of nursing "maintaining nursing care rendered directly or indirectly". The Board's nursing practice rules define *Maintaining Nursing Care Rendered Directly or Indirectly* as preserving the continuity of safe and effective nursing care, including the delegated nursing activities. Furthermore, the Board's legal standards of nursing practice holds the registered nurse accountable to practice in accordance with standards of practice. The standard of practice for registered nursing in any work environment is the performance of a daily narcotic count; this standard of practice ensures the proper documentation of controlled substances and safeguards patient care.

If I can further assist you with nursing practice matters, please contact me.

cc: file