Page 1 Page 3 1 IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS 1 PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N., of lawful age, 2 OF SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO 2 called for examination, as provided by the Ohio 3 3 Rules of Civil Procedure, being by me first duly 4 CHARLES G. PERE, et al., 4 sworn, as hereinafter certified, deposed and 5 Plaintiffs, 5 said as follows: 6 Case No. 03-07-3984 6 EXAMINATION OF PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N. VS 7 THE LEDGES OF ROCKYNOL, 7 BY MS. TRESL: 8 et al., 8 Q. For the record, would you state your 9 Defendants. 9 name and address, please? 10 10 A. Patricia Coffman, 541 Edgewood 11 11 Avenue, Akron, Ohio, 44307. 12 DEPOSITION OF PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N. 12 Q. Is it okay if I call you Pat? 13 13 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2003 Α. Sure. 14 14 Q. Please, feel free to call me Jackie. 15 Deposition of PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N., a 15 Α. Okay. 16 Witness herein, called by counsel on behalf of 16 Q. You spell Coffman a little 17 the Plaintiff for examination under the statute, 17 differently? 18 taken before me, Cynthia A. Sullivan, a 18 A. Yes, than most people, 19 Registered Professional Reporter and Notary 19 C-O-F-F-M-A-N. 20 Public in and for the State of Ohio, pursuant to 20 Q. Have you ever had your deposition 21 agreement of counsel, at the offices of Tipping 21 taken before? 22 Co., L.P.A., 525 N. Cleveland-Massillon Road, 22 A. 1 think once. 23 Akron, Ohio, commencing at 3:45 p.m. on the day 23 Q. What was that situation? 24 and date above set forth. 24 A. It's been probably close to 30 years 25 25 ago, honey, at the hospital once, and I don't Page 2 Page 4 **APPEARANCES:** even remember anything about what the case was 1 1 2 On behalf of the Plaintiffs: 2 about or anything. 3 Becker & Mishkind, by 3 Q. It was a malpractice case? 4 JACQUELINE D. TRESL, ESQ. 4 A. It was something in regards to the 5 The Skylight Office Building 5 hospital, yeah. I used to work at St. Thomas 6 Suite 660 6 back in the '70s. 7 1220 W. 2nd Street 7 Q. Were you named a defendant or just 8 Cleveland, Ohio 44113 8 came in as a witness; do you recall? 9 216-241-2600 9 A. I was like for the hospital because 10 10 I had taken care of the patient probably. 11 On behalf of the Defendant Rockynol: 11 Do you remember the name of the Q. 12 Tipping Co., L.P.A., by 12 case? 13 ALISON M. BREAUX, ESQ. 13 Α. I don't. I don't remember it. 14 525 N. Cleveland-Massillon Road 14 Q. Just assuming you don't remember 15 Suite 207 15 some of the basic guidelines, I'll review them 16 Akron, Ohio 44333 16 with you. I'm sure your attorney has discussed 17 330-670-8400 17 it with you. 18 18 A. Right. 19 On behalf of the Defendant Dr. Amanambu: 19 Q. If you don't understand my question, 20 Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, by 20 I want you to stop and tell me that you don't 21 BRENDA COEY, ESQ. 21 understand it; okay? 22 4518 Fulton Drive, NW 22 A. Sure. 23 P. O. Box 35548 23 Q. I need you to answer yes or no so 24 Canton, Ohio 44735 24 that Cynthia can put it down because uh-huhs and 25 330-492-8717 25 uh-uhs are very hard for her to transcribe.

1 (Pages 1 to 4)

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	Page 5		Page 7
1	Don't nod or shake your head. Just say yes or	1	Q. When did you get that?
2	no.	2	A. That was incorporated in our school
3	A. Okay.	3	of nursing. I don't think it was like a
4	Q. If you can let me finish asking my	4	separate course back when I was in school, but
5	question before you answer, I would be grateful.	5	they you know, it was like they said it was
6	A. All right.	6	incorporated in our nursing program.
7	Q. I will give you the same courtesy,	7	Q. You're able to give medications then
8	hopefully, to let you try to answer before I	8	at Rockynol?
9	interject. Sometimes we'll probably talk over	9	A. Yes.
10	one another, but if we try, we ought to be able	10	Q. Are you able to give injections,
11	to make it pretty clear for the record.	11	also?
12		12	
11	A. Okay.	1	A. Yes.
13	Q. Are you currently employed at	13	Q. At the time that Mr. Pere was at
14	Rockynol?	14	Rockynol, which shift did you work primarily, or
15	A. Yes, I am.	15	did you work lots of shifts?
16	Q. Tell me about how long you have been	16	A. I used to work over, but I was
17	there and what your job is.	17	
18	A. I'm a licensed practical nurse, and	18	Q. So you came on in the morning?
19	I'm a charge nurse for either the first floor or	19	A. Yes. I came on at 7:00 a.m.,
20	second floor. I've been there for seven years.	20	
21	Our duties are, you know, to give out	21	Q. Typically, what did you work? What
22	assignments to the nurse assistants every	22	were your normal shifts, 7:00 to 3:00?
23	morning and pass out the medications prescribed	23	A. 7:00 to 3:00 I'm on now. That was
24	by the doctors for that shift and do any	24	the shift I was on then.
25	treatments that are ordered for the residents.	25	Q. Full time?
123	acaments that are ordered for the residents.	25	Q: Fuir time:
1		1	
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1	Page 6 O Where did you get your LPN at2	1	Page 8
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2	Q. Where did you get your LPN at?A. Akron School of Practical Nursing.	2	A. Yes. Q. Were you assigned to his floor,
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2 (Pages 5 to 8)

11		1	
	Page 9		Page 11
1	Q. Did you look at any policies or	1	were doing for him?
2	procedure manuals from Rockynol?	2	A. Yes.
3	A. No.	3	Q. Did he call you by name? Did he
4	Q. Did you do any independent medical	4	know who you were?
5	research for today's deposition?	5	A. I don't think he knew my name.
6	A. No.	6	Q. Was Mr. Cailer his roommate at that
7	Q. Do you remember Mr. Pere apart from	7	time when you were passing the medications?
8	the medical records that you reviewed today?	8	A. Yes.
9	A. Yes, I do.	9	Q. Do you remember anything specific
10	Q. What do you remember about Mr. Pere?	10	about Mr. Cailer?
11	A. That he was a new patient, and he	11	A. Yeah. I remember Mr. Cailer because
12	was I remember him being a tall gentleman and	12	he used to be up walking around in the hallways,
13	that he was getting therapy. He was alert and	13	and he had been there quite longer than the
14	oriented. Then I can't remember much else about	14	other guy. Mr. Cailer would get mixed up to,
15	him.	15	you know, the time of day and stuff like that.
16	Q. So when I ask you about Mr. Pere,	16	Q. You never knew that to happen with
17	some of the things that you tell me may be an	17	Mr. Pere?
18	independent memory apart from what you reviewed	18	A. No, I didn't.
19	in the nurse's notes for the deposition?	19	Q. But you only cared for him that one
20	A. Yes.	20	time when you may have passed medications to
21	Q. Did you care for Mr. Pere at all	21	him?
22	from the 29th to the time that he died?	22	A. Yes.
23	A. I really can't remember that. I	23	Q. But you are fairly certain that you
24	know I did that morning, you know, when we found	24	•
25	him.	25	A. Yeah. I think I had him one other
 			
	Page 10		Page 12
1	Q. Prior to that morning, do you recall	1	day than the day we found him.
2	having any interactions with him?	2	Q. Let's talk about the day that you
3	A. I think I did one other day.	3	
			found him. You came on at 7:00; would that be
4	Q. Would that be that you cared for	4	correct?
5	him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to	5	correct? A. Right.
5 6	him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example?	5 6	correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of
5 6 7	him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example? A. I think I passed medication to him	5 6 7	correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of what you did leading up to the time when you
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5 6 7 8 9	 him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example? A. I think I passed medication to him one day. Q. What do you remember, if anything, 	5 6 7 8 9	correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of what you did leading up to the time when you found him. Let's just get to where you actually find him.
5 6 7 8 9 10	 him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example? A. I think I passed medication to him one day. Q. What do you remember, if anything, about the day you passed medication to him? 	5 6 7 8 9 10	correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of what you did leading up to the time when you found him. Let's just get to where you actually find him. A. When we come on, we get report from
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	 him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example? A. I think I passed medication to him one day. Q. What do you remember, if anything, about the day you passed medication to him? A. He took his medication without 	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of what you did leading up to the time when you found him. Let's just get to where you actually find him. A. When we come on, we get report from the off-going nurse to see what's going on, and
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5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 him, or you just stopped by his room to talk to him, for example? A. I think I passed medication to him one day. Q. What do you remember, if anything, about the day you passed medication to him? A. He took his medication without problems, and he didn't have any complaints or anything. Q. Do you recall if he was up moving around in the room when you gave him the medication, or was he sitting in the chair in his bed? A. He was sitting at the side of his bed. Q. Do you recall seeing him up at any time other than just when you passed the medication to him? A. I really don't recall. 	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	 correct? A. Right. Q. Tell me what happened in terms of what you did leading up to the time when you found him. Let's just get to where you actually find him. A. When we come on, we get report from the off-going nurse to see what's going on, and then I get my cart ready to head down the hall to start passing medication, and I was just really, his room was one of the first rooms when you come down the one hall, and I just had my cart there across from his room, and his roommate came out and told me that he fell. I looked in there, and I could see him on the floor with the blood by his head. Q. So you're pushing your cart? A. Yes. Q. And the roommate comes out to you? A. Uh-huh.

^{3 (}Pages 9 to 12)

Page 13 Page 15 1 rooms on one side and rooms on the other, and 1 1 estimate of a measurement? 2 was on the opposite side with my cart. 2 Q. On the record, she can't write down 3 Q. Could you see in there? 3 what your hand is doing on the table, so if you 4 I could look in the room when he 4 A. can just give us a little visual. 5 told me, yes. 5 A. It was probably about -- I'd say the 6 Q. Tell me, you're standing there with 6 blood probably went out about maybe 8 inches or 7 your cart, and Mr. Caller, tell me exactly what 7 about 8 or 9 inches out around his head all 8 he said that you remember. 8 surrounding his head. 9 Q. There was a bit of a pooling? I A. He came out and told me that his 9 10 roommate had fallen. 10 mean, it was more than just brushed across the 11 Then what happened? surface? There was actually a little bit of Ο. 11 12 A. Well, I could see him on the floor, blood there? 12 13 so I went in right away and, you know, I just --13 Α. Oh, I don't remember that. 14 I could see him. He was just doing like real 14 Q. So you came up to him, and when you 15 shallow breathing like gasping for air. 1 15 say you checked his pulse, was that the carotid? 16 couldn't feel no pulse. I just hollered for 16 A. I checked the radial, uh-huh. 17 help, I need help in here right away, because 17 Q. Did you feel it? 18 they were in -- I just hollered. I stayed in 18 A. I couldn't feel no pulse. 19 the room and hollered that I needed some help. 19 Q. Did you check any other place for a 20 I know the supervisor was getting 20 pulse, or did you just call for help? 21 report in the china room which is not too far 21 A. I just called for help because he 22 from there, and I was hoping that somebody would 22 was having really shallow, effused like 23 hear me, and they came right away. 23 respirations, real shallow. 24 Q. Describe to me when you saw Mr. Pere Did you try to arouse him at all? 24 Q. 25 and when you went in and checked his pulse. 25 A. Yes. Page 14 Page 16 Paint a picture for me of what you saw. 1 1 Q. He would not arouse? 2 A. He was laying on the floor with his 2 Α, No. 3 head to the -- laying on his left side, and his Then what happened when the help 3 Q. 4 arms were beside him down, and he just was 4 came in? 5 passed -- I could see he was passed out. 5 A. When they came in, then the 6 Q. What was his color? 6 supervisor, you know, she -- he had stopped 7 A. Unconscious. 7 breathing now. She went to go see if he was a 8 Q. Do you remember his color? 8 DNR or comfort care, you know, and he was a DNR. 9 A. I don't really remember the color. 9 He had stopped breathing at that time when she 10 Q. Tell me about the blood. Was there 10 got in there, and she checked for a carotid 11 a lot of blood or a small amount of blood? 11 pulse, and there was none. He was getting 12 A. It was a fair amount. I wouldn't 12 cyanotic then, so his color was --13 say a large amount but a fair amount which isn't 13 Q. How long did it take for her to go 14 too unnormal from a head injury, but there was a 14 check his DNR order and come back? 15 fair amount. Like, there was a pool around his 15 A. There was two nurses. One went out 16 head. 16 to check while the other one was in there with 17 Q. About how wide would you say the 17 me. I don't know which one it was, whether it 18 pool was around his head? 18 was Kim. 19 A. I don't know how to compare it. 19 Q. So they came in, he was getting 20 Q. The size of a pie? The size of a 20 cyanotic, and then what happened? 21 car tire? 21 A. They told us not to -- he was gone, 22 Probably like his head is there, but Α. 22 they knew he was gone, and they said not to move 23 it was around the side of his head more like -him or anything. 23 24 I don't know how to describe it. 24 Q. So what did you do? 25 MS. BREAUX: Can you give an 25 I just, you know, I left the room Α.

^{4 (}Pages 13 to 16)

		T	
	Page 17		Page 19
1	then.		understand the question exactly.
2	Q. Then what happened after that that	2	Q. What I want to know is when
3	you remember observing?	3	something like this happens, people talk about
4	A. I really don't remember. I started	4	it because it's very significant. What I'm
5	on my work then.	5	wondering is what kinds of things you talked
6	Q. Were you shook up at all?	6	about to understand it and explain it, how he
7	A. Yes.	7	was laying at the foot of his bed?
8	Q. Tell me how you felt after that.	8	A. They were trying to figure out if he
9	A. I just felt bad. It was just kind	9	had tried to catch himself in a fall or if, you
10	of a shocking situation to see.	10	know, exactly what had happened that made him be
11	Q. Did you talk to any of your fellow	11	on the floor like that because apparently it
12	workers about what had happened?	12	didn't look like he had tried to catch himself
13	A. Other than not really, just to	13	from falling or anything. Stuff like that we
14	the supervisor, you know, to tell her how I seen	14	were talking about like after it happened.
15	him and everything on the floor.	15	Q. What other possibilities did you
16	Q. What did she say when you told her	16	talk about other than that in terms of not
17	that?	17	catching himself?
18	MS. BREAUX: Objection. Pat, you	18	A. I really don't remember anything
19	can answer. You can go ahead and answer.	19	else, you know. Knowing that, we were just
20	A. Could you repeat that?	20	curious as to what the autopsy report would
21	Q. What did she say when you told her	21	show.
22	those things, what you had observed? What did	22	Q. Did you find out what the autopsy
23	she say back to you?	23	showed?
24	A. I really don't remember.	24	A. Not until the other day.
25	Q. Later on after that, did you talk to	25	Q. What did you think when you heard
	Page 18		
1	your fellow workers about what had happened?	1	Page 20 about what the autopsy showed?
2	A. No.	2	MS. BREAUX: Objection. This was a
3	Q. Why would you not have talked to	3	discussion that we had with coursel.
4	your fellow workers about that?	4	Q. Well, if I told you that the autopsy
5	A. I was busy doing my work.	5	showed that his back was broken, would that
6	Q. Did you take a lunch that day?	6	surprise you? Was that a yes or no or I don't
7	A. I probably did.	7	know?
8	Q. Do you typically go by yourself for	8	A. Would that surprise me? At that
9	lunch?	9	time I didn't really know.
10	A. Yes.	10	Q. Did you come to any sort of
11	Q. So you wouldn't have had a chance to	11	understanding with your colleagues about what
12	talk about it then?	12	had happened that day, or was it always just a
13	A. Right.	13	mystery to you until you met with counsel last
14	Q. Is there any point that you talked	14	week, Monday or whatever day?
15	to your coworkers about what had happened to	15	A. You know, it was never definite,
16	Mr. Pere?	16	what had happened, but we did talk about it
17	A. Yeah. We've talked about it like	17	because, you know, because it doesn't happen
18	getting ready today and everything.	18	every day. But I don't know if I'm answering
19	Q. Other than today with your attorney,	19	that right or not.
20	what have you talked to your colleagues, your	20	Q. Can you be more specific, is what
21	coworkers, about it? When you talked about	21	I'm trying to determine, with what you talked
22	Mr. Pere, what did you talk about?	22	about because it doesn't happen every day?
23	A. I really don't remember the exact.	23	A. Well, just that we were just trying
24	You know, we would just say, you know I	24	to piece the pieces together, you know, because
25	really don't remember exactly. I don't really	25	I don't exactly know how to say it.
		6 m m	

5 (Pages 17 to 20)

11		T	
	Page 21		Page 23
1	Q. Well, try. Just do your best.	1	side of the bed is when he may have gone down?
2	A. Okay. Just what I had said about we	2	I'm just trying to understand. If
3	were trying to figure out, you know, how exactly	3	the BM is down at the foot and he's found at the
		1	
4	he fell, you know, if he slipped on something or	4	side of the bed, how did the BM get there do you
5	what. But from the way when the supervisor was	5	imagine?
6	in there, she said that there was nothing that	6	I understand you're just guessing
7	he it didn't look like there had been any	7	from what you saw.
8	I guess, they had some BM on the floor, and	8	A. Yes. Well, I don't remember seeing
9	there were no skid marks in the BM. It was just	9	the BM.
10	like it was smashed down, so he didn't	10	
11	,		Q. I see. That's just from what you
11	apparently trip on anything like that. Just	11	heard?
12	that we felt that he had passed out, and that's	12	A. Yeah.
13	what made him fall. Just that was our	13	Q. But you know it was at the foot of
14	conclusion from what we had seen there in the	14	the bed from what you heard?
15	room.	15	A. I just know there was BM in the
16	MS. BREAUX: Objection.	16	room. I don't remember seeing it myself.
17	Q. When you say BM, you said a small	17	Q. Have you talked to anybody else
18	amount?	18	
11		1	since this in terms of his family, Dr. Amanambu,
19	A. Yes.	19	
20	Q. Was it formed, or was it diarrhea?	20	about? Did you talk to Mrs. Pere after this
21	A. They said it looked like it was	21	happened?
22	smashed down.	22	A. No.
23	Q. So it was hard to tell?	23	Q. Do you remember seeing Mrs. Pere
24	A. Uh-huh.	24	after this happened?
25	Q. He was on top of it; is that what	25	A. I never met her.
23	Q. The was on top of it, is that what	25	A. Thever met her.
1		<u> </u>	
1			
	Page 22		Page 24
1	Page 22 happened?	1	Page 24 Q. Is there anywhere in the medical
2		1	Q. Is there anywhere in the medical
	happened?		Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted?
2 3	happened? A. No. It was down at the foot of the bed.	23	Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted?A. No.
2 3 4	happened? A. No. It was down at the foot of the bed. Q. He was at the head of the bed or	2 3 4	Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted?A. No.Q. So your name does not appear here?
2 3 4 5	happened?A. No. It was down at the foot of the bed.Q. He was at the head of the bed or foot of the bed?	2 3 4 5	 Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted? A. No. Q. So your name does not appear here? A. No.
2 3 4 5 6	 happened? A. No. It was down at the foot of the bed. Q. He was at the head of the bed or foot of the bed? A. No. He was almost like the bed 	2 3 4 5 6	 Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted? A. No. Q. So your name does not appear here? A. No. Q. Is there anywhere that you were
2 3 4 5 6 7	 happened? A. No. It was down at the foot of the bed. Q. He was at the head of the bed or foot of the bed? A. No. He was almost like the bed is here (indicating), and he was like next to 	2 3 4 5 6 7	 Q. Is there anywhere in the medical records where you charted? A. No. Q. So your name does not appear here? A. No. Q. Is there anywhere that you were asked to document what you saw for Rockynol
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4	Page 25		CENTIFICATE Page 27	
1	We'll see if Brenda has any. EXAMINATION OF PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N.	2	CERTIFICATE State of Ohio,)	
3	BY MS. COEY:	4) SS:	
4	Q. You may have answered this, but I	5	County of Cuyahoga.)	
5	want to check. I'm not sure. On the day of	7		
6	this incident, did you talk with Dr. Amanambu	, Š	I, Cynthia A. Sullivan, a Notary Public	
7	about Mr. Pere at all?	10	within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify	
8	A. No.	111	that the within named PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N., was by me first duly sworn to testify to the	
9	Q. You had no conversations with Dr. Amanambu?	ł	truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth	
11	A. No, I didn't.	12	In the cause aforesaid; that the testimony as above set forth was by me reduced to stenotypy,	
12	MS. COEY: That's all I have.	13	afterwards transcribed, and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the	al-states
13	MS. TRESL: Thank you very much.	1	testimony.	
14	You did a lovely job.	15	l do further certify that this deposition was taken at the time and place specified and	
15	MS. BREAUX: We'll read.	16	was completed without adjournment; that I am not a relative or attorney for either party or	
16		17	otherwise interested in the event of this	
17	(Deposition concluded at 4:05 p.m.)	18	action. I am not, nor is the court reporting firm with which I am affiliated, under a	
18 19	(Signature not waived.)	19	contract as defined in Civil Rule 28(D).	
20		20	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Cleveland.	
20			Ohio, on this 24th day of November 2003.	
22		21 22	anthis a. Sulliver	╢
23		23	Cynthia A. Sullivan, Notary Public	
24			Within and for the State of Ohio	
25		25	My commission expires October 6, 2006.	
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1	AFFIDAVIT	1	INDEX	1647
2	I have read the foregoing transcript from	2	DEPOSITION OF PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N.	
3	page 1 through 25 and note the following	3		
4 5	corrections: PAGE LINE REQUESTED CHANGE	4 5	BY MS. TRESL:	
6	TAGE LINE REQUESTED CHANGE	6	BT P13. COET:	
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8		8		and the second
9		9		
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15		15		
16		16		ISWW FAX
17		17		Alternative Alternative
18	PATRICIA COFFMAN, L.P.N.	18		1000
19		19		
20	Subscribed and sworn to before me this	20		1000
21 22	day of, 2003.	21		
22		22 23		čivata III.
24	Notary Public	24		
25	My commission expires	25		1997 (March 1997)
L				

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