

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: PATSY ANN TRIPLETT, L.P.N.
License Number: 0002-073792
Case Number: 172622

RATIFICATION AND ORDER

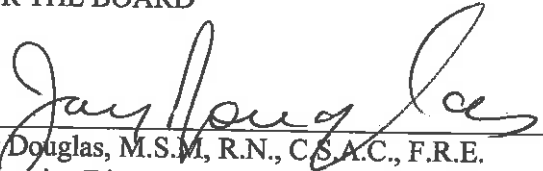
On November 15, 2017, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Patsy Ann Triplett, L.P.N., was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Agency Subordinate and ADOPTS the Recommended Order in its entirety.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Since Ms. Triplett failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Triplett has the right to appeal this Order directly to the appropriate Virginia circuit court. As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Ms. Triplett has thirty days from the date of service (the date she actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to her, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, at Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233. In the event that this decision is served by mail, three days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD



Jay Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

November 30th 2017

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing

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IN RE: PATSY ANN TRIPLETT, L.P.N.
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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Judith E. Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on August 24, 2017, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Patsy Ann Triplett, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Triplett did not appear at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Agency Subordinate makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and recommends that the Board adopt the following Order.

Notice

By letter dated June 29, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Triplett notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 24, 2017. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board. The certified mail receipt was signed and returned to the Board office. The Notice sent by first class mail was not returned to the Board office. Accordingly, the Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Triplett and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. Patsy Ann Triplett, L.P.N., was issued License Number 0002-073792 to practice practical nursing on July 10, 2006, which expired on October 31, 2016. At all times relevant to the findings herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. During the course of her employment with Maxim Healthcare, Roanoke, Virginia, while assigned to provide care for Patient A:
 - a. Ms. Triplett violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”) (currently found at 18 VAC 90-19-230(A)(2)(e), effective February 24, 2017), in that on January 13, 2016, she documented providing care at 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.; however, by her own admission, the patient was not at home and had been transported to the hospital.
 - b. Ms. Triplett violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations (currently found at 18 VAC 90-19-230(A)(2)(e) and (f), effective February 24, 2017), in that between January 14, 2016 and January 16, 2016, Ms. Triplett neglected Patient A in that she spent long periods of time away from the patient in another room, took frequent breaks, and spent a considerable amount of time on her electronic tablet. Further, on January 15, 2016, Ms. Triplett documented that she repositioned the patient at 12:00 a.m., 2:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m.; however, the surveillance video indicates that she failed to do so. She also documented administering pain medication at 2:00 a.m; however, the surveillance video indicates that she failed to do so.
3. Ms. Triplett violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(1) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations (currently found at 18 VAC 90-19-230(A)(1)(b), effective February 24, 2017), in that:

a. On October 21, 2003, she indicated on her application for certification by examination as a nurse aide that she had never been convicted of a felony, when, in fact, on April 3, 1985, in the Circuit Court for the County of Henry, Virginia, she was convicted of bigamy, a felony; and on August 18, 1992, in the Circuit Court for Franklin County, Virginia, she was convicted of two counts of felony embezzlement.

b. On May 8, 2006, she indicated on her application for licensure by examination as a practical nurse that she had never been convicted of a felony, when in fact, as stated above, she had felony convictions for bigamy and embezzlement.

4. Ms. Triplett violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations (currently found at 18 VAC 90-19-230(A)(2)(e), effective February 24, 2017), in that on August 16, 2012, she failed to disclose her felony conviction for bigamy on her employment application with Maxim Healthcare.

Recommended Order

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Agency Subordinate recommends that the Board issue an Order as follows:

1. The right of Patsy Ann Triplett, L.P.N., to renew her license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license of Ms. Triplett will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.
4. Should Ms. Triplett, seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Ms. Triplett to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of practical nursing. Ms. Triplett shall

be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and/or renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

Reviewed and approved on September 5, 2017
By Judith E. Piersall, R.N., B.S.N.
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing