

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: SHANNON J. WASHINGTON, L.P.N.
License Number: 0002-063262
Case Number: 169428

RATIFICATION AND ORDER


On July 20, 2016, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Shannon J. Washington, L.P.N. was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached Amended 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. Washington failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Washington 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. Washington 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 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



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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

August 9, 2014

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board of Nursing

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IN RE: SHANNON J. WASHINGTON, L.P.N.
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AMENDED REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Allison Gregory, MS., R.N., F.N.P.-B.C., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on May 26, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that SHANNON J. WASHINGTON, L.P.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Washington 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 May 3, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Washington notifying her that an informal conference would be held on May 26, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice sent by certified mail was returned to the Board marked “Unable to Forward.” As of May 26, 2016, 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. Washington and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. Shannon J. Washington, L.P.N. was issued License Number 0002-063262 to practice practical nursing on February 21, 2002, which is scheduled to expire on July 31, 2018. At all times relevant to the allegations herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Ms. Washington violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) and (e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that during the course of her employment with The Laurels of University Park, Richmond, Virginia, she diverted narcotic medications for her own personal and unauthorized use, as evidenced by the following:
 - a. On July 6, 2015, Ms. Washington forged the signature of Nurse A as a witness to wasting Resident B's hydromorphone (C-II) on the Controlled Medication Reconciliation Sheet, when, in fact, Nurse A did not work that day.
 - b. Between July 10, 2015 and July 24, 2015, Ms. Washington documented that she withdrew oxycodone (C-II) for Resident B nine times on the Controlled Medication Reconciliation Sheet, but failed to document the administration and pain level on the resident's Medication Administration Record ("MAR"). Further, on July 7, 2015, Ms. Washington had documented that the medication had been discontinued on the MAR.
 - c. On July 14, 2015, and July 17, 2015, Ms. Washington forged the signature of Nurse A as a witness to wasting Resident C's hydromorphone on the Controlled Medication Reconciliation Sheet, when, in fact Nurse A did not work either day. Further, on July 6, 2015, Ms. Washington forged Nurse A's signature on Resident C's Controlled Medication Reconciliation Sheet, documenting that Nurse A administered four doses of hydromorphone to Resident C.

3. On September 19, 2015, Ms. Washington's employment with The Laurels of University Park was terminated. Ms. Washington was disciplined five times for medication and documentation issues during her employment.

4. Ms. Washington did not respond to the requests for an interview from the investigator for the Department of Health Professions.

5. Ms. Washington had previously been reprimanded by the Board in 2011 for a medication documentation issue.

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 license issued to Shannon J. Washington to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license of Shannon J. Washington will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.
4. Should Shannon J. Washington seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Shannon J. Washington to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of practical nursing. Shannon J. Washington 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 July 1, 2016
By Allison Gregory, MS., R.N., F.N.P.-B.C.
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing