

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: MARTHA ANN CROWLEY, R.N.**  
**License Number: 0001-244618**  
**Case Number: 177081**

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**ORDER**

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**JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) held an informal conference on October 10, 2017, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Martha A. Crowley, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Martha Ann Crowley, R.N., appeared at this proceeding and was represented by Nathan Mortier, Esquire.

**NOTICE**

By letter dated September 1, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Crowley notifying her that an informal conference would be held on October 10, 2017. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Martha Ann Crowley, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-244618 to practice professional nursing on June 7, 2013, which is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2018. At all times relevant to the findings contained herein, said license was current and active. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Crowley violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(5) and (6) in that on October 19, 2016, during the course of her employment with Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia (“SNGH”), she was impaired during her shift while providing care to three patients, as evidenced by the following:
  - a. Ms. Crowley was observed by coworkers exhibiting signs of impairment including loud speech and disruptive behavior during the shift huddle.
  - b. By her own admission, on the evening prior to her 7:00 a.m. shift on October 19, 2016, Ms. Crowley had consumed a bottle to a bottle-and-a-half of wine.
  - c. A reasonable suspicion drug screen performed on October 19, 2016 at 9:42 a.m. indicated that Ms. Crowley had a blood alcohol level of .107%.
3. Ms. Crowley stated to the Committee that on October 18, 2016, she had spent the evening packing to go on a celebratory trip for her upcoming birthday and drank excessively. The shift on October 19, 2016, was not a normal shift; she had traded shifts in order to have the weekend off for her trip.
4. On October 27, 2016, Ms. Crowley’s employment with SNGH was terminated after three years of service. SNGH was her first nursing position following licensure. There was no patient harm during this incident.
5. Ms. Crowley stated to the Committee that this was an isolated incident and she has made changes to insure that this will not happen again. She stated that she rarely drinks and definitely does not drink the night before her shift.
6. Ms. Crowley provided the Board with three letters of recommendation from nursing professionals speaking of her skill and professionalism as a nurse.

7. Ms. Crowley is currently employed as a travel nurse and is assigned to a hospital in Arizona.


**ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Martha Ann Crowley, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Crowley shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 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.

FOR THE BOARD


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

ENTERED AND MAILED: November 1, 2017

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Crowley may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on December 4, 2017, notify Jay Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for

the hearing, this Order shall be vacated. This Order shall become final on December 4, 2017, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

**Certified True Copy**  
By   
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**Virginia Board of Nursing**