

Certified True Copy

By [Signature]  
Virginia Board of Nursing



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VA BD OF NURSING

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.  
Director

Department of Health Professions  
Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov  
TEL (804) 367-4400  
FAX (804) 527-4475

October 25, 2017

Sarah Elizabeth Peddle, R.N.  
2808 Suncoast Lakes Boulevard  
Punta Gorda, FL 33980

DUPLICATE COPY  
VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATE 10/25/17

RE: License Number: 0001-185858  
Case Number: 182786

Dear Ms. Peddle:

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2409, you are hereby given notice that your license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia has been mandatorily suspended by the enclosed Order entered October 25, 2017. You are hereby advised that you may not practice professional nursing or hold yourself out as a licensed professional nurse unless and until the Board of Nursing has notified you in writing that your license has been reinstated. Please return your license to Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), at the above address, immediately upon receipt of this letter.

You may apply to the Board for reinstatement of your license, and you shall be entitled to a formal administrative hearing not later than the next regular meeting of the Board after the expiration of 60 days from the Board's receipt of your reinstatement application. The reinstatement of your license shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of the Board present at the hearing. The reinstatement application can be found at [www.dhp.virginia.gov/Nursing](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Nursing).

If you have any questions about this matter, you can contact me at (804) 367-4474 or [anne.joseph@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:anne.joseph@dhp.virginia.gov).

Sincerely,

Anne Joseph, Deputy Director  
Administrative Proceedings Division

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

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

**IN RE: SARAH ELIZABETH PEDDLE, R.N.**  
**License Number: 0001-185858**  
**Case Number: 182786**

**ORDER OF MANDATORY SUSPENSION**

In accordance with Virginia Code § 54.1-2409, I, David E. Brown, D.C., Director of the Virginia Department of Health Professions, received and acted upon evidence that the Florida Board of Nursing suspended the license of Sarah Elizabeth Peddle, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the State of Florida. A certified copy of the Final Order is attached hereto as Commonwealth's Exhibit 1.

WHEREUPON, by the authority vested in the Director of the Department of Health Professions pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2409, it is hereby ORDERED that the license of Sarah Elizabeth Peddle, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby SUSPENDED.

Upon entry of this Order, the license of Sarah Elizabeth Peddle, R.N., will be recorded as suspended and no longer current and valid. Should Ms. Peddle seek reinstatement of her license pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2409, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Peddle's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional 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 or copying on request.




\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Brown, D.C., Director  
Virginia Department of Health Professions

ENTERED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
10/25/17

**CERTIFICATION OF DUPLICATE RECORDS**

I, David E. Brown, D.C., Director of the Department of Health Professions, hereby certify that the attached Final Order entered September 5, 2017, regarding Sarah Elizabeth Peddle, R.N., is a true copy of the records received from the Florida Board of Nursing.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Brown, D.C.

10/25/17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF NURSING

Final Order No. DOH-17-1671-<sup>FOI</sup>-MQA  
FILED DATE - SEP 06 2017  
Department of Health  
By: Amy R. Conway  
Deputy Agency Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Petitioner,

vs.

Case No.: 2017-00294  
License No.: RN 9269392

SARAH E. PEDDLE,

Respondent.

**FINAL ORDER**

This matter appeared before the Board of Nursing at a duly-noticed public meeting on August 3, 2017 in West Palm Beach, Florida, for a hearing not involving disputed issues of material fact pursuant to Respondent's Election of Rights requesting a hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes. Petitioner has filed an Administrative Complaint seeking disciplinary action against the license. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached to and made a part of this Final Order. Petitioner was represented by Louise St. Laurent, Assistant General Counsel. Respondent was present.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Therefore, the Board adopts as its finding of facts the facts set forth in the Administrative Complaint.



CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Board concludes the licensee has violated Section 456.072(1)(aa) and 464.018(1)(h) and (i), Florida Statutes.

The Board is empowered by Sections 464.018(2) and 456.072(2), Florida Statutes, to impose a penalty against the licensee. Therefore it is ORDERED that:

The licensee must pay investigative costs of \$2,238.24 within 36 months of the date this Final Order is filed. Payment shall be made to the Board of Nursing and mailed to, DOH- Compliance Management Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-76 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3276, Attention: Nursing Compliance Officer. Payment must be made by cashier's check or money order ONLY. Personal checks will not be accepted.

The license of SARAH E. PEDDLE is suspended and shall remain suspended until such time that she enters into the Intervention Project for Nurses (IPN) and complies with any and all terms and conditions imposed by IPN. It is the duty of the licensee to contact the IPN at P.O. Box 49130, Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32249-9130, (904) 270-1620 within 30 days from the date of entry of this order. The licensee shall comply with all conditions of the IPN Advocacy Contract or she will be in violation of the Board Order.



STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

PETITIONER,

v.

CASE NO. 2017-00294

SARAH E. PEDDLE, R.N.,

RESPONDENT.

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ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner Department of Health files this Administrative Complaint before the Board of Nursing against Respondent Sarah E. Peddle, R.N., and in support thereof alleges:

1. Petitioner is the state agency charged with regulating the practice of nursing pursuant to Section 20.43, Florida Statutes (2016); Chapter 456, Florida Statutes (2016); and Chapter 464, Florida Statutes (2016).
  2. At all times material to this Complaint, Respondent was licensed to practice nursing within the State of Florida, having been issued License Number RN 9269392, and was employed as a nurse at Sarasota Memorial Health Care Systems (SMHCS) in Sarasota, Florida.
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3. Respondent's address of record is 2808 Suncoast Lakes Blvd., Port Charlotte, Florida 33980.

4. In or about December 2016, SMHCS management discovered suspicious entries in Respondent's medication administration records.

5. During an internal investigation, Respondent admitted to SMHCS management that she had been diverting and administering hydromorphone<sup>1</sup> to herself two-to-three times per shift since May 2016.

6. On or about December 18, 2016, Respondent submitted to an employer-ordered drug screen that was confirmed by a Medical Review Officer to be positive for hydromorphone.

7. Respondent did not have a legitimate reason to possess or use hydromorphone.

#### COUNT I

8. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs one through seven as if fully set forth herein.

9. Section 456.072(1)(aa), Florida Statutes (2016), subjects a licensee to discipline for testing positive for any drug on any preemployment

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<sup>1</sup> Hydromorphone is prescribed to treat pain. According to Section 893.03(2), Florida Statutes (2016), hydromorphone is a Schedule II controlled substance that has a high potential for abuse and has a currently accepted but severely restricted medical use in treatment in the United States. Abuse of hydromorphone may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.



or employer-ordered drug screening when the practitioner does not have a lawful prescription and legitimate medical reason for using the drug.

10. Respondent tested positive for hydromorphone without a lawful prescription or a legitimate medical reason for using hydromorphone.

11. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Section 456.072(1)(aa), Florida Statutes (2016).

### COUNT II

12. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs one through seven as if fully set forth herein.

13. Section 464.018(1)(i), Florida Statutes (2016), subjects a licensee to discipline for "[e]ngaging or attempting to engage in the possession, sale, or distribution of controlled substances as set forth in chapter 893, for any other than legitimate purposes authorized by this part."

14. Respondent engaged in the possession of hydromorphone without a legitimate purpose.

15. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Section 464.018(1)(i), Florida Statutes (2016).

### COUNT III

16. Petitioner realleges and incorporates paragraphs one through

seven as if fully set forth herein.

17. Section 464.018(1)(h), Florida Statutes (2016), subjects a licensee to discipline for unprofessional conduct. Rule 64B9-8.005(2), Florida Administrative Code, defines unprofessional conduct as including misappropriating drugs, supplies, or equipment.

18. Respondent misappropriated hydromorphone from SMHCS.

19. Based on the foregoing, Respondent violated Section 464.018(1)(h), Florida Statutes (2016).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board of Nursing enter an Order imposing one or more of the following penalties: permanent revocation or suspension of Respondent's license, restriction of practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of Respondent on probation, corrective action, refund of fees billed or collected, remedial education and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

SIGNED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.

Celeste Philip, MD, MPH  
Surgeon General and Secretary



John Wilson  
Assistant General Counsel  
DOH Prosecution Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-65  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3265  
Florida Bar Number 84798  
(P) 850-245-4444, extension 8167  
(F) 850-245-4662  
(E) john.wilson@flhealth.gov

FILED  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY CLERK  
CLERK Amber Greene  
DATE MAR 22 2017

PCP Date: March 21, 2017

PCP Members: Jessie Colln, Jody Bryant Newman

### NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Respondent has the right to request a hearing to be conducted in accordance with Section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, to be represented by counsel or other qualified representative, to present evidence and argument, to call and cross-examine witnesses and to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued on his or her behalf if a hearing is requested. A request or petition for an administrative hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Department within 21 days from the day Respondent received the Administrative Complaint, pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(2), Florida Administrative Code. If Respondent fails to request a hearing within 21 days of receipt of this Administrative Complaint, Respondent waives the right to request a hearing on the facts alleged in this Administrative Complaint pursuant to Rule 28-106.111(4), Florida Administrative Code. Any request for an administrative proceeding to challenge or contest the material facts or charges contained in the Administrative Complaint must conform to Rule 28-106.2015(5), Florida Administrative Code. Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available to resolve this Administrative Complaint.

### NOTICE REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

Respondent is placed on notice that Petitioner has incurred costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this matter. Pursuant to Section 456.072(4), Florida Statutes, the Board shall assess all costs related to the investigation and prosecution of a disciplinary matter, which may include attorney hours and costs, on the Respondent in addition to any other discipline imposed.

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Phillip, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon General and Secretary

**Vision:** To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC RECORD(S)**

I, **Sharon Russ**, hereby certify that I am an official custodian of records for the Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance. I hereby verify that I have conducted a thorough search of the official records of the Division of Medical Quality Assurance and have determined that the attached records consisting of 9 pages, are true, correct and complete copies of Case No. 2017-00294 for Sarah. E. Peddle RN9269392. I further certify that these records are received and required to be filed or recorded, are actually filed or recorded, and originals are maintained in the public office of the Division of Medical Quality Assurance. The attached is a regularly received and retained record in the ordinary course of business. This certification is made pursuant to Sections 90.803(8), and 90.902(4), Florida Statutes (2016).



*Sharon Russ*      9/26/17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Russ      Date  
Public Records Custodian

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF LEON

Before me, personally appeared Sharon Russ whose identity is personally known to me, and who, acknowledges that his/her signature appears above.

Sworn and subscribed to, before me, this 26 day of September, 2017.

*Lawanda M. Bell*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature-Notary Public-State of Florida

