



RECEIVED

Certified True Copy

By [Signature]  
Virginia Board of Nursing

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

VA BD OF NURSING

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

DUPLICATE COPY  
VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATE 10/25/17

Karen W. Highlander, R.N., L.N.P.  
6119 Shiney Rock Road  
Clarksville, VA 23927

RE: License Numbers: 0001-202526, 0024-170124  
Case Numbers: 183224, 183220

Dear Ms. Highlander:

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2409, you are hereby given notice that your licenses to practice professional nursing and as a nurse practitioner in the Commonwealth of Virginia have been mandatorily suspended by the enclosed Orders entered October 25, 2017. You are hereby advised that you may not practice professional nursing or as a nurse practitioner or hold yourself out as a licensed professional nurse or nurse practitioner unless and until you have been notified in writing that your licenses have been reinstated. Please return your licenses 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 licenses, and you shall be entitled to a formal administrative hearing not later than the next regular meetings of the Board of Nursing and the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine after the expiration of 60 days from the receipt of your reinstatement applications. The reinstatement of your licenses shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of the Board and of the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine present at the hearings. The reinstatement applications 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,

[Signature]

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: KAREN W. HIGHLANDER, L.N.P.**  
**License Number: 0024-170124**  
**Case Number: 183220**


**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 Karen W. Highlander, L.N.P., was convicted of a felony offense, to wit: four counts of obtain drugs by fraud, in the Circuit Court of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia. A certified copy of the Conviction and Sentencing 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 Karen W. Highlander, L.N.P., to practice as a nurse practitioner in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby SUSPENDED.

Upon entry of this Order, the license of Karen W. Highlander, L.N.P., will be recorded as suspended and no longer current and valid. Should Ms. Highlander 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.

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 Conviction and Sentencing Order entered October 4, 2017, regarding Karen W. Highlander, L.N.P., is a true copy of the records received from the Circuit Court of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia.



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

10/25/17

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF WAYNESBORO

CONVICTION AND SENTENCING ORDER



Hearing Date: September 27, 2017  
Judge Designate: The Honorable Charles L. Ricketts, III

FIPS CODE #820

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

V.

KAREN ELIZABETH HIGHLANDER, DEFENDANT

<u>CASE NUMBER</u>	<u>OFFENSE DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>OFFENSE DATE</u>	<u>VA CODE SECTION</u>	<u>VCC</u>
CR17000372	Obtain Drug By Fraud – FELONY	12/06/2016	18.2-258.1	NAR-3016-F6
CR17000373	Obtain Drug By Fraud – FELONY	12/26/2016	18.2-258.1	NAR-3016-F6
CR17000374	Obtain Drug By Fraud – FELONY	01/15/2017	18.2-258.1	NAR-3016-F6
CR17000375	Obtain Drug By Fraud – FELONY	01/23/2017	18.2-258.1	NAR-3016-F6

This 27th day of September, 2017 came William H. Flory, the Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, and Karen Elizabeth Highlander, who stands indicted of four (4) felonies, to-wit: unlawfully and feloniously obtain or procure the administration of a drug or controlled substance, to wit: Oxycodone, by the forgery or alteration of a prescription or written order, appeared according to the condition of her recognizance, and came also Eric M. Anderson, the Assistant Public Defender, counsel for the accused.

Whereupon the accused was duly arraigned and after private consultation with and being advised by her said counsel, pleaded "guilty" to the indictments, which pleas were tendered by the accused in person. And the Court having made inquiry and being of the opinion that the accused fully understood the nature and effect of her pleas and of the penalties that may be imposed upon her conviction and of the waiver of trial by jury and of appeal, and finding that the pleas were voluntarily and intelligently made, proceeded to hear and determine the cases without the intervention of a jury as provided by law, and having heard the stipulated evidence and argument of counsel, finds the accused **GUILTY** of unlawfully and feloniously obtaining or procuring the administration of a drug or controlled substance, to wit: Oxycodone, by the forgery or alteration of a prescription or written order (four charges), as charged in the indictments.

The defendant and the Attorney for the Commonwealth having agreed to waive the preparation of a presentence report, the court concurs and the presentence report is hereby waived.

The Court doth hereby ORDER the applicable discretionary sentencing guidelines and the guidelines worksheets filed as a part of the record in these cases.

And it being demanded of the defendant if anything for herself she had or knew to say why judgment should not be pronounced against her according to law, and nothing being offered or alleged in delay of judgment, it is accordingly the judgment of this Court that the defendant be and she is hereby **SENTENCED** to incarceration with the Virginia Department of Corrections for a period of three (3) years in each case, said sentences to run *concurrently* with one another, and that the Commonwealth of Virginia do recover against the said defendant its costs by it about its prosecution in this behalf expended.

And the Court, upon the joint recommendation of the Attorney for the Commonwealth and counsel for the defendant, and being of the opinion that it is compatible with the public interest so to do, **SUSPENDS** the execution of each of the aforesaid sentences for and during a period of three (3) years from this date on the following conditions:

1. that she keep the peace and be of good behavior;
2. that she be and is hereby placed on probation under the supervision of the Probation Officer of this Court, and that she comply with all rules of probation;
3. that he enter into and successfully complete such substance abuse assessment, treatment and/or education programs as deemed necessary by his Probation Officer;
4. that he be subject to random drug screens and remain drug and alcohol free; and
5. that she pay the court costs assessed against her herein.

It is further ORDERED that, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 18.2-259.1 of the Code of Virginia as amended, the defendant's operator's license is hereby suspended for a period of six (6) months in each case, and that a restricted may be issued to the defendant.

After pronouncing sentence, the Court advised the defendant of her right to petition for an appeal and her right to proceed in forma pauperis and to have the assistance of court-appointed counsel.

The Court certifies that at all times during the trial of these cases the defendant was personally present and her attorney, the Assistant Public Defender, was likewise personally present and capably represented the defendant for which services the sum of \$445.00 in each case is hereby taxed as a part of the costs in this prosecution.

In addition, the defendant is ORDERED to provide a sample of saliva for DNA analysis to be sent to the Department of Forensic Science within 15 days after withdrawal pursuant to Va Code §§19.2-310.2 and 19.2-310.3, unless a sample was previously taken, and is further ORDERED to cooperate fully and promptly in providing information and permitting fingerprinting and/or sampling of saliva as required by this Order.

And the defendant is allowed to depart.

ENTER: *[Signature]*  
JUDGE  
DATE: 10/4/17

**DEFENDANT IDENTIFICATION:**

SSN:

DOB:

SEX: FEMALE

**SENTENCING SUMMARY:**

TOTAL SENTENCE IMPOSED: THREE (3) YEARS

TOTAL SENTENCE SUSPENDED: THREE (3) YEARS

A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY  
TESTE: *Melanie W. Layman* Deputy Clerk  
CIRCUIT COURT  
CITY OF WAYNESBORO