

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: CARLA SERENA MORSE, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT**  
**License Number: 0001-219466**  
**Case Number: 178973**

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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 June 8, 2017, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Carla S. Morse’s application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Carla Serena Morse, R.N., appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

**NOTICE**

By letter dated May 8, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Morse notifying her that an informal conference would be held on June 8, 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. Carla Serena Morse, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-219466 to practice professional nursing on July 1, 2009, which expired on December 14, 2015. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By Order of the Board entered on December 14, 2015, Ms. Morse’s license was indefinitely suspended for not less than one year.

3. Carla Morse violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that she is unsafe to practice professional nursing due to substance abuse and/or mental illness, as evidenced by the following:
  - a. In October 2015, Ms. Morse relapsed on alcohol.
  - b. On January 11, 2016, Ms. Morse was hospitalized at Maryview Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia, for alcohol dependence. At the time of admission, Ms. Morse reported consuming up to one liter of wine on a daily basis for the past one and a half weeks. She was discharged on January 15, 2016, with diagnoses including alcohol use disorder and opioid use disorder.
  - c. From February 21, 2016 to March 16, 2016, Ms. Morse obtained residential substantial abuse and mental health treatment at the Farley Center, Williamsburg, Virginia. Ms. Morse left against medical advice with a guarded prognosis, failing to meet the criteria for successful discharge.
4. Ms. Morse continues to receive treatment at Churchland Psychiatric Associates and her psychiatrist submitted a letter supporting the reinstatement of her license. Ms. Morse continues to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and her family is her support system.
5. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Morse's health records or health services.

### ORDER

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

1. The application of Carla Serena Morse, R.N., for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing is APPROVED contingent upon Ms. Morse's entry into the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"). Thereafter, Ms. Morse shall comply with the terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Morse's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive

Ms. Morse's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

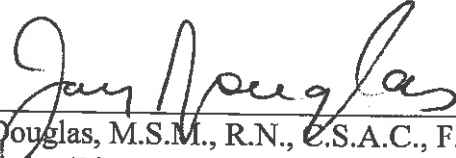
2. This Order is applicable to Ms. Morse's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Morse shall not work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where she seeks to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

3. Carla Serena Morse, R.N., shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

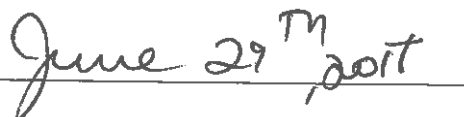
4. Any violation of the foregoing terms and conditions of this Order or any statute or regulation governing the practice of professional nursing shall constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

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: \_\_\_\_\_



Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board of Nursing

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Morse may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on August 1, 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 August 1, 2017, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.