

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: JOHN MARTIN SADLER, R.N.
License Number: 0001-127202
Case Numbers: 176746, 171729

RATIFICATION AND ORDER

On May 17, 2017, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. John Martin Sadler, R.N., was not present nor was he represented by legal counsel.


The Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached 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.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Mr. Sadler's health records or health services.

Since Mr. Sadler failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Mr. Sadler 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, Mr. Sadler has thirty days from the date of service (the date he actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to him, 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

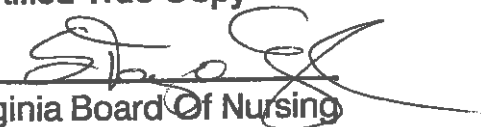


so Jay Douglas, M.S.M, R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

May 30, 2017

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board of Nursing

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: JOHN MARTIN SADLER, R.N.
License Number: 0001-127202
Case Numbers: 176746, 171729

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Judith E. Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on March 7, 2017 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that John Martin Sadler, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Sadler 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 February 8, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Mr. Sadler notifying him that an informal conference would be held on March 7, 2017. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board. The Notice sent by certified mail was returned to the Board office unclaimed. The Notice sent by first class mail was returned to the Board office marked “Return to sender; not deliverable as addressed; unable to forward.” Accordingly, the Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Mr. Sadler and the informal conference proceeded in his absence.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. John Martin Sadler, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-127202 to practice professional nursing on March 30, 1992, which is scheduled to expire on May 31, 2017. At all times relevant to the findings herein, said license was in full force and effect. His primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By Order entered July 12, 1995, the Board placed Mr. Sadler's license on probation based on findings that he had an intimate relationship with a patient after she was discharged from the psychiatric unit where he worked. The terms of probation were terminated, and Mr. Sadler was issued an unrestricted license on August 19, 1996.
3. Mr. Sadler violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that he is unsafe to practice professional nursing due to mental illness, substance abuse, and/or chemical dependency, as evidenced by the following:
 - a. From January 11 to 13, 2016, Mr. Sadler was hospitalized at Southside Regional Medical Center, Petersburg, Virginia, for major depression and alcohol abuse.
 - b. From October 12 to 19, 2016, Mr. Sadler was hospitalized at Southside Regional Medical Center pursuant to a temporary detention order for major depressive disorder, recurrent episode, moderate, with suicidal ideations and alcohol detoxification.
4. On February 26, 2016, Mr. Sadler told an investigator for the Department of Health Professions that he had not worked for three years and that he had been on disability for depression for three years. Mr. Sadler stated that disability was his only source of income and that he had lost his residence due to the recent death of his girlfriend.
5. Mr. Sadler admitted to the investigator that he had a history of alcohol abuse and acknowledged drinking prior to his January 2016 hospitalization. Mr. Sadler told the investigator that

he was not attending AA meetings and that the only counseling he had received since his January 2016 admission was through his church. Mr. Sadler also stated that he had no insurance or money for treatment.

6. Mr. Sadler did not respond to the investigator's contact attempts regarding an investigation of his October 2016 admission.

7. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Mr. Sadler's health records or health services.

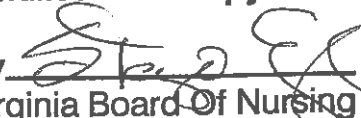
Recommended Order

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 John Martin Sadler, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license of Mr. Sadler will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.
4. Should Mr. Sadler seek reinstatement of his license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Mr. Sadler to demonstrate that he is safe and competent to return to the practice of professional nursing. Mr. Sadler 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 March 31, 2017
By Judith E. Piersall, R.N., B.S.N.
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board Of Nursing