

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: LISA T. DAWSON, L.P.N.  
License Number: 0002-031948  
Case Number: 171767

RATIFICATION AND ORDER

On March 22, 2017, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Lisa T. Dawson, L.P.N., was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

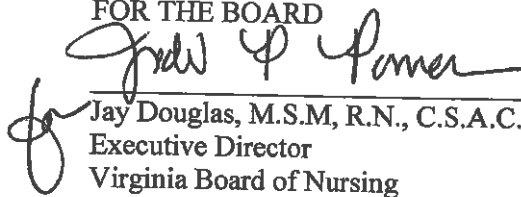
In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Agency Subordinate and ADOPTS the Recommended Order in its entirety.

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.

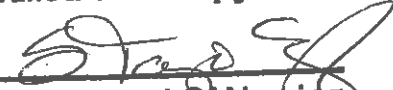
Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Dawson's health records or health services.

Since Ms. Dawson failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Dawson 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, Ms. Dawson has thirty days from the date of service (the date she actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to her, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, 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

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

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board Of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

March 30, 2017

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:       LISA T. DAWSON, L.P.N.**  
**License Number: 0002-031948**  
**Case Number:       171767**

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE**

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**Jurisdiction and Procedural History**

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), held an informal conference on January 18, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Lisa T. Dawson, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Dawson 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 December 21, 2016, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Dawson notifying her that an informal conference would be held on January 18, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board. The receipt for the Notice sent by certified mail was signed by an individual other than Ms. Dawson. The Notice sent by first class mail was not returned to the Board office. Accordingly, the Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Dawson and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

### **Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law**

1. Lisa T. Dawson, L.P.N., was issued License Number 0002-031948 to practice practical nursing on November 18, 1982, which is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2017. At all times relevant to the findings herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Dawson violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that she is unsafe to practice practical nursing due to mental illness and/or physical illness and/or substance abuse, as evidenced by the following:

a. On January 10, 2016, she was hospitalized following a suicide attempt. She was intoxicated at the time, having admittedly consumed alcohol, clonazepam, and Neurontin. She was discharged on January 12, 2016, with diagnoses of chronic adjustment disorder with mixed anxiety and depressed mood; pain disorder with both psychological and physical factors; rule out primary anxiety disorder; rule out opioid use disorder; and alcohol use disorder.

b. In an interview with an investigator for the Department of Health Professions in August 2016, Ms. Dawson's mental health treatment provider stated that Ms. Dawson reported excessive use of alcohol. The provider indicated that Ms. Dawson's alcohol use had caused problems and turmoil in her personal life and that Ms. Dawson is not safe to practice while she is using alcohol. She further indicated that Ms. Dawson is resistant to discussing non-medication options for treatment of her chronic pain and treatment for substance abuse. Additionally the provider reported that Ms. Dawson refused substance abuse treatment services. Ms. Dawson was unwilling to be seen as frequently as was deemed appropriate by her mental health treatment provider.

3. Ms. Dawson cancelled several appointments to be interviewed by an investigator for the Department of Health Professions. No current employment information was available.

4. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Dawson'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 Lisa T. Dawson, L.P.N., to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license of Lisa T. Dawson, L.P.N., will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.
4. Should Ms. Dawson seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Ms. Dawson to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of practical nursing. Ms. Dawson 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 February 9, 2017  
By Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N.  
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board of Nursing