

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: SANDRA E. THOMAS, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on September 15, 2008, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Sandra E. Thomas’ application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia. Ms. Thomas was present and was not represented by counsel. Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Sandra E. Thomas was issued License No. 0001-138069 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 16, 1994. Said license was indefinitely suspended by Consent Order of the Board entered on November 16, 2005, as a result of Ms. Thomas’ diversion of controlled substances and her dismissal from the Health Practitioners’ Intervention Program (“HPIP”) due to non-compliance.
2. Ms. Thomas submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing which was received by the Board on April 10, 2007.
3. On May 26, 2006, in the Henrico County Circuit Court, Henrico, Virginia, Ms. Thomas was found guilty of obtaining drugs by fraud, a misdemeanor. She was sentenced to six months incarceration, suspended for a period of three years conditioned upon good behavior.
4. In January 2007, Ms. Thomas entered the Richmond Outreach Center Discipleship Home, a six-month residential treatment program for drug and alcohol abuse. She completed the program in July 2007.

5. On June 11, 2008, Ms. Thomas signed a Participation Contract with the HPIP.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Committee concludes that Sandra E. Thomas is a candidate for the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP").
2. The Board concludes that Ms. Thomas otherwise meets the requirements of § 54.1-3020 of the Code.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The license of Sandra E. Thomas is hereby REINSTATED with the following terms and conditions:
 - a. Ms. Thomas shall enter into a Recovery Monitoring Contract with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"), pursuant to § 54.1-2515 *et seq.* of the Code and 18 VAC 76-10-10 *et seq.* of the Regulations Governing the HPIP, and shall have proof of entry into a Contract with the HPIP provided to the Board within 30 days of the date this Order is entered.
 - b. Ms. Thomas shall continue to comply with all terms and conditions of the Recovery Monitoring Contract ("Contract") with the HPIP for the period specified in the Contract.
2. This order shall be applicable to Ms. Thomas' multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Thomas shall not work outside 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 Ms. Thomas wishes to work. Any request for out of state employment shall be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

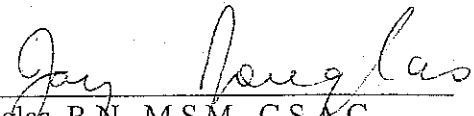
3. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Ms. Thomas, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Thomas shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:

- a. Ms. Thomas has failed to make application to the HPIP;
- b. Ms. Thomas is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPIP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPIP;
- c. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Thomas involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or
- d. Ms. Thomas has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPIP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Thomas' participation in and compliance with the HPIP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Thomas' appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

4. Ms. Thomas shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2 of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as public record and shall be made available for public inspection or copying on request.

FOR THE COMMITTEE



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

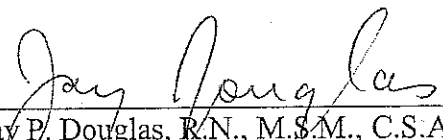
ENTERED: September 26th, 2008

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO FORMAL HEARING

If you do not consent to the Committee's decision and desire a hearing before the Board or a panel thereof, you shall notify, in writing, the Executive Director of the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233, within 33 days of the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon expiration of the 33-day period unless a request for a formal hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving a timely request for a hearing, this Order shall be vacated and the Board or a panel thereof shall proceed with a hearing as provided in § 2.2-4020 *et seq.* of the Code.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed, by certified and regular mail, this day to Sandra E. Thomas, R.N., at 315 Fairfield Drive, King William, Virginia 23086.



Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.
Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing
September 26th, 2008
Date