BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N. License Number: 0001-227111 Case Number: 172757

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), an Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") held an informal conference on October 27, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into allegations that Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in Virginia.

Ms. Noble did not appear at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated September 14, 2016, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Noble notifying her that an informal conference would be held on October 27, 2016. 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 and first class mail were returned to the Board marked "return to sender" and "unable to forward." The first class mail was marked with a forwarding address provided by the United States Postal Service.

By letter dated October 5, 2016, the Board sent a Notice to Ms. Noble notifying her that an informal conference would be held on October 27, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the forwarding address provided by the United States Postal Service. The Notice sent by certified mail was returned to the Board marked "return to sender" and "unable to forward." 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. Noble and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

BOARD'S CONSIDERATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE'S RECOMMENDATION

The Board met regarding this matter on January 25, 2017. Ms. Noble was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel but submitted written comments. In consideration whereof, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the ORDER contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-227111 to practice professional nursing on September 10, 2010, which is scheduled to expire on January 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. Noble violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that she is unsafe to practice as a professional nurse due to substance abuse and/or mental illness, as evidenced by the following:
- a. On March 15, 2016, Ms. Noble presented to Chippenham Johnston-Willis Medical Center, Tucker Pavilion, Richmond, Virginia ("CJW") with suicidal ideations. Ms. Noble was admitted to CJW with diagnoses of psychotic disorder-not otherwise specified, depression-not otherwise specified, and substance use disorder, amphetamines.
- b. On April 5, 2016, Ms. Noble was admitted to CJW with a diagnosis of major depression-recurrent without psychotic features.
 - Ms. Noble received five electroconvulsive therapy treatments at CJW in April 2016.

- 4. Ms. Noble received outpatient mental health treatment with Chesterfield County Mental Health Services, Chesterfield, Virginia ("CCMHS") from March 23, 2016 through May 18, 2016. She received medication management services from Behavioral Health Group-MRM, Mechanicsville, Virginia from October 19, 2013 through February 24, 2016. According to Ms. Noble's therapist at CCMHS, Ms. Noble suffers from significant financial issues and serious grief issues, has a young son with a disability, and is currently living with her sister as a result. Ms. Noble's therapist reported that she did not show for her last scheduled appointment on June 8, 2016.
- 5. In an interview with an investigator with the Department of Health Professions ("DHP"), Ms. Noble admitted to a history of depression dating back to age 16.
- 6. Ms. Noble described herself to the DHP investigator as a "binge drinker." She reported her sobriety date as March 15, 2016.
- 7. Ms. Noble has been unemployed since December, 2015 and has held four nursing positions since 2010. She last worked in professional nursing at Henrico Doctor's Hospital, Forest Campus, Richmond, Virginia ("HDH"). Her employment at HDH was terminated on December 18, 2015 for absenteeism.
- 8. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Noble's health records or health services.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board Orders as follows:

- 1. The license issued to Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
 - 2. The license of Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
 - 3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.

- 4. Should Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Ms. Noble to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of professional nursing. Ms. Noble 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.
- 5. The suspension shall be STAYED upon proof of Ms. Noble's entry into a Contract with the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP").
- 6. Upon stay of the suspension, Ms. Noble shall comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.
- 7. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Noble's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Noble's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.
- 8. This Order is applicable to Ms. Noble's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Noble 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.
- 9. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the stay of suspension shall result in the immediate rescission of the stay of suspension of the license of Amanda Kathleen Noble, R.N., and the license shall be recorded as suspended. After any rescission of the stay of suspension, Ms. Noble

may, within 33 days of the effective date of the rescission, request a formal administrative hearing before the Board.

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.

Since Ms. Noble failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Noble 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. Noble 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 Donglas, M.S.M, R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.

Executive Director

Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

Certified True Copy

Virginia Board of Nursing