

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: JENNIFER TIPPENS, R.N.
License No.: 0001-221990**

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Jennifer Tippens, R.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Tippens' license to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

The Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Jennifer Tippens, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-221990 to practice professional nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on October 30, 2009. Said license is set to expire on February 28, 2015. Ms. Tippens' primary state of residence is Virginia. She is also licensed as a R.N. in Ohio.
2. Ms. Tippens has a substance abuse problem as evidenced by the following:
 - a. Ms. Tippens was convicted in Mansfield Municipal Court, Mansfield, Ohio, of misdemeanor disorderly conduct and reckless operation of a vehicle related to the use of alcohol in March, 2007.
 - b. Ms. Tippens was convicted in the General District Court of Norfolk, Virginia, of DUI on August 24, 2007.
 - c. Ms. Tippens was convicted in the Virginia Beach General District Court of DWI, 2nd offense, on March 16, 2011.
 - d. Ms. Tippens was convicted in the Virginia Beach General District Court of public intoxication on June 1, 2011.

3. Ms. Tippens admitted to having a substance abuse problem when she applied for licensure as a registered nurse in Ohio. She entered into a Consent Order dated September 20, 2013, with the Ohio Board of Nursing which placed her license on indefinite probation for a minimum of two years and required her to comply with monitoring, continuing education, and employment restrictions.

4. Ms. Tippens graduated from the Meridian Psychotherapy outpatient substance abuse program on November 9, 2011. She claims to have been abstinent from alcohol since May, 2011.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of §54.1-3007(6) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”).

2. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of §54.1-3007(7) of the Code.

CONSENT

Jennifer Tippens, R.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. Ms. Tippens has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;

2. Ms. Tippens acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;

3. Ms. Tippens acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact-finding conference before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;

4. Ms. Tippens waives all such right to an informal conference;

5. Ms. Tippens admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;

6. Ms. Tippens consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS that Jennifer Tippens, R.N., shall be placed on PROBATION subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The period of probation shall begin on the date that this Order is entered and shall end at such time as Ms. Tippens has completed the terms of probation imposed by the Ohio Board of Nursing. The license of Ms. Tippens shall be reinstated without restriction at the completion of the probationary period without a hearing unless there is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation involving a violation of law, regulation or any term or condition of probation. In that event, the period of probation shall be continued indefinitely or until such time as the Board makes a case decision in accordance with the Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* and §54.1-2400(9) *et seq.* of the Code.
2. Ms. Tippens shall inform the Board in writing within ten days of the date she begins nursing practice or changes employment, or if any interruption in nursing practice occurs. Additionally, Ms. Tippens shall provide the name and address of each employer to the Board.
3. Ms. Tippens shall inform her current nursing employer and each future nursing employer that the Board has placed her on probation and shall provide each employer with a copy of this Order. If Ms. Tippens is employed through a staffing agency, she shall inform her supervisor in each facility where assigned that she is on probation.
4. Performance Evaluations shall be provided, at the direction of Ms. Tippens, by all employers, as provided by the Compliance Division. The first report must be received in the Board office no later than

60 days from the date this Order is entered. Subsequent reports must be received quarterly by the last day of the months of March, June, September, and December until the period of probation ends.

5. Ms. Tippens shall provide proof to the Virginia Board of Nursing of completion of approved courses required by the Ohio Board of Nursing to include three hours of "*Ohio Nursing Laws and Rules*," three hours of "*Substance Abuse*," three hours on "*Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know*," and five hours of "*Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for nurses*."

6. Ms. Tippens shall have an evaluation by a chemical dependency specialist satisfactory to the Ohio and/or the Virginia Board of Nursing and shall have a written report of the evaluation, including a diagnosis, a recommended course of therapy, and a prognosis sent to the board within 60 days from the date this Order is entered. Ms. Tippens shall comply with any recommendations of the specialist. If therapy is recommended, written quarterly progress reports by the therapist shall be sent to the Board by the last day of March, June, September and December until Ms. Tippens is discharged from therapy. Ms. Tippens shall direct the therapist to notify the Board if she withdraws from the treatment program before being officially discharged by the therapist.

7. Ms. Tippens shall not use alcohol or any mood altering chemical, except as prescribed by a health care practitioner with whom she has a bona fide practitioner/patient relationship and for accepted medicinal or therapeutic purposes. Should she be prescribed any Schedule II-V controlled medication, a written report from the prescribing physician shall be provided to the Board and to Ms. Tippens' aftercare program counselor within ten days of the date the medication is prescribed.

8. Ms. Tippens shall be required to have supervised, unannounced random drug screens. The Board shall be notified immediately in writing of any positive results or if Ms. Tippens refuses to give a specimen for analysis as required by this Order. All positive results must be confirmed by a confirmatory

drug test, the results of which are to be sent to the Board as specified by the Ohio Board of Nursing order, with copies of results provided to the Virginia Board of Nursing's compliance case manager.

9. Ms. Tippens shall provide all current and future treatment practitioners with a complete copy of this Order and shall execute an Authorization for Disclosure of Information form providing for unrestricted communication between the Ohio Board, Virginia Board, and any court-appointed probation or parole officers and any consultants designated by the Board.

10. Ms. Tippens shall submit quarterly "Self Reports" which include a current address, telephone number, and verification of all current employment. These reports shall also include any changes in employment status. The first report must be received in the Board office no later than 60 days from the date this Order is entered. Subsequent reports must be received quarterly by the last day of the months of March, June, September and December until the period of probation ends.

11. Ms. Tippens shall return all copies of her license to practice as a professional nurse to the Board office within ten days of the date of entry of this Order along with a payment of a fee of \$15.00. Upon receipt, the Board shall issue a new license marked "Valid in Virginia Only; Probation with Terms."

12. Ms. Tippens shall conduct herself as a professional nurse in compliance with the requirements of Title 54.1, Chapter 30 of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

13. Ms. Tippens shall be noticed to appear at an administrative hearing at such time as the Board is notified that Ms. Tippens is not in compliance with any of the terms and conditions of this Order.

14. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or failure to comply with all terms of this Order within five years of the date of entry of this Order, shall be reason for suspending or revoking the license of Ms. Tippens and an administrative proceeding may be held to determine whether her license shall be suspended or revoked.

15. Ms. Tippens shall sign release of information forms allowing the Ohio Board of Nursing, health professionals, and other organizations to submit requested documentation to the Virginia Board of Nursing and to allow exchange of required documentation between the Ohio and Virginia Boards of Nursing.

16. This Order is applicable to Ms. Tippens' multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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 upon request.

FOR THE BOARD

Jay Douglas
Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director

ENTERED: August 7th, 2014

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

J. Tippens RN
Jennifer Tippens, R.N.

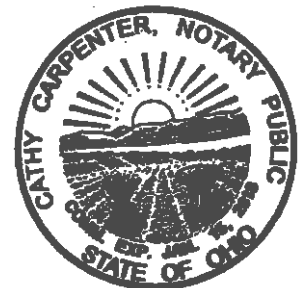
Ohio

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF New London, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Jennifer I Tippens, a Notary Public, this 30th day of July, 2014.

My commission expires 01-15-18

Registration Number 2012-RE-438513



Cathy Carpenter
NOTARY PUBLIC

Certified True Copy

By [Signature]
Virginia Board of Nursing