

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: LAUREL JUNE STARK BYERS WOODRUFF, R.N.
a.k.a. LAUREL BYERS
License Number: 0001-166965
Case Number: 169719

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11), a panel of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") held a formal administrative hearing on September 21, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Laurel June Stark Byers Woodruff, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Laurel June Stark Byers Woodruff, R.N., appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated August 18, 2016, the Board sent a Notice of Formal Hearing ("Notice") to Ms. Woodruff notifying her that a formal administrative hearing would be held on September 21, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Laurel June Stark Byers Woodruff, R.N. holds License No. 0001-166965 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. At all times relevant hereto, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Woodruff is unsafe to practice professional nursing due to mental illness and/or substance abuse, as evidenced by the following:

a. Between September 25 and 27, 2011, Ms. Woodruff received inpatient treatment at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia (“VBPC”), for a suicide attempt by taking 35 tablets of Xanax (alprazolam, C-IV) 1mg. Her discharge diagnoses included adjustment reaction with dysphoric mood.

b. Between September 15 and 17, 2015, Ms. Woodruff received inpatient treatment at VBPC after she was admitted by temporary detention order following an attempted overdose of Xanax and/or Lunesta (eszopiclome, C-IV). Upon discharge, Ms. Woodruff’s diagnoses included bipolar affective disorder I and major depressive disorder with recent suicide attempt.

3. On October 23, 2015, Ms. Woodruff told an investigator for the Department of Health Professions (“DHP”) that her September 2015 suicide attempt was circumstantial related to stress and dealing with her seizure disorder diagnosis. Ms. Woodruff could not recall the details of her 2011 suicide attempt.

4. On December 14, 2015, Ms. Woodruff told the DHP investigator that she had not sought any counseling since her September 2015 discharge.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact Nos. 2(a) and 2(b) constitute a violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6).

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

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The license of Laurel June Stark Byers Woodruff, R.N., to practice professional nursing is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.
4. Should Ms. Woodruff seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Ms. Woodruff to demonstrate that Ms. Woodruff is safe and competent to return to the practice of professional nursing. Ms. Woodruff 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. Woodruff's entry into a Contract with the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP").
6. Upon stay of the suspension, Ms. Woodruff shall comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.
7. Ms. Woodruff shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
8. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Woodruff's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Woodruff's

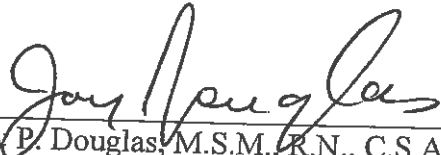
appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

9. This Order is applicable to Ms. Woodruff's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Woodruff 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.

10. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the stay of suspension shall be reason for summarily rescinding the stay of suspension of the license of Ms. Woodruff, and the license shall be recorded as suspended. After any rescission of the stay of suspension, a formal administrative proceeding shall be instituted.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 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.


FOR THE BOARD



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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

October 6th, 2016

Certified True Copy
By 

Virginia Board Of Nursing

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in 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, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.