

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: TAYLOR MICHELLE SULLIVAN, R.N.
License Number: 0001-218586
Case Number: 171754, 168811

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) held an informal conference on August 11, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Taylor Michelle Sullivan, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Taylor Michelle Sullivan, R.N. appeared at this proceeding and was represented by Nathan Mortier, Esquire.

NOTICE

By letter dated July 15, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Sullivan notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 11, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Taylor Michelle Sullivan, R.N. was issued License Number 0001-218586 to practice as a professional nurse on June 5, 2009, which is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2016. At all times

relevant to the findings contained herein, said license was current and active. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Sullivan violated Virginia Code 54.1-3007(5) in that during the course of her employment with Sentara Careplex Hospital, Hampton, Virginia, from April through June 2015, on at least five occasions, Ms. Sullivan administered narcotic pain medications to patients but did not document any pain assessment at the time of administration or any reassessment.

3. Ms. Sullivan violated Virginia Code 54.1-3007(2) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that on her August 7, 2015, application for employment with Bon Secours DePaul Medical Center, Norfolk, Virginia, Ms. Sullivan falsely stated that her reason for leaving employment with Sentara Careplex Hospital was “unsafe working conditions.” Ms. Sullivan’s employment had been terminated on July 23, 2015, based on inconsistent documentation regarding pain assessment and reassessment and medicating patients not under her care. Further, she tested positive for a controlled substance for which she did not provide a prescription.

4. Ms. Sullivan violated Virginia Code 54.1-3007(5) and (6) in that on January 15, 2016, during an internal facility investigation into her practice at Bon Secours DePaul Medical Center, Ms. Sullivan submitted to a for-cause urine drug screen that was positive for morphine, for which she did not have a prescription.

5. Ms. Sullivan’s employment with Bon Secours was terminated.

6. Ms. Sullivan stated that both positive employment-related drug screens resulted from her unknowingly ingesting controlled substances.

7. Ms. Sullivan is currently employed with Davita Dialysis Center. She stated that her employer is aware of her appearance before the Board.

8. Ms. Sullivan provided evidence that she had completed three NCSBN courses – *Ethics & Professional Conduct, Professional Accountability & Legal Liability, and Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills.*

9. Ms. Sullivan has sought and is receiving treatment, counseling and medication to help deal with personal issues for which she had previously failed to seek treatment. She stated that these personal issues had contributed to her substandard nursing practice.

ORDER

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

1. Taylor Michelle Sullivan, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
2. Within 60 days from the date of entry of this Order, Ms. Sullivan shall provide written proof satisfactory to the Board of successful completion of the following NCSN online course: *Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know.*
3. Ms. Sullivan shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
4. Any violation of the foregoing terms and conditions of this Order or any statute or regulation governing the practice of professional nursing shall constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

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.

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

FOR THE BOARD

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

Certified True Copy

By *[Signature]*
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED:

September 2, 2016

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Sullivan may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on October 5, 2016, notify Jay Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated. This Order shall become final on October 5, 2016, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.