

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE
JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING AND MEDICINE

IN RE: MATHEW J. SYKES, R.N., L.N.P.

ORDER

Pursuant to § 9-6.14:11 and § 54.1-110 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, a Special Conference Committee ("Committee") of the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine met on March 7, 2001, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon evidence that Mathew J. Sykes, R.N., L.N.P., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of licensed nurse practitioners in Virginia. Mr. Sykes was present and was represented by Jay H. Steele, Esquire, and Dennis E. Jones, Esquire.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Committee adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Mathew J. Sykes, R.N., L.N.P., holds License Number 0001-162394, issued by the Board of Nursing, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth and License Number 0024-162394 to practice as a licensed nurse practitioner in the category of adult nurse practitioner. He also holds License Number 0017-001774 for prescriptive authority, issued by the Boards of Nursing and Medicine.
2. During the course of his employment with Family Healthcare Associates of Southwest Virginia, P.C., Lebanon, Virginia, by his own admission, on divers occasions, Mr. Sykes utilized a pre-signed prescription pad by his primary supervising physician. Further, by his statements to the Committee, he has ceased this practice and the pre-signed prescription pad no longer exists.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-2957.01(B) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, 18 VAC 90-30-220(3) and (4) of the regulations governing the licensure of nurse practitioners in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS that NO ACTION be taken against Mathew J. Sykes, R.N., L.N.P., who holds License Number 0024-162394, issued by the Board of Nursing, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth and License Number 0001-162394 to practice as a licensed nurse practitioner in the category of adult nurse practitioner, and License Number 0017-001774 for prescriptive authority, issued by the Boards of Nursing and Medicine.

The Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine expects Mr. Sykes to maintain a course of conduct in his capacity as a licensed nurse practitioner commensurate with the requirements of Title 54.1, Chapter 30, of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and the regulations governing the licensure of nurse practitioners and prescriptive authority for licensed nurse practitioners in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Pursuant to § 9-6.14:14 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, 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.

If Mr. Sykes does not consent to the Committee's decision and desires a hearing before the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine, he shall notify Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, in writing at 6606 West Broad Street, Fourth Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717 within thirty-three (33) days from the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon the expiration of the thirty-three day period unless a request for a formal

hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving timely request for a hearing, the Board or a panel thereof shall then proceed with a hearing as provided in § 9-6.14:12 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE
JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING
AND MEDICINE

Nancy K. Durrett
Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

ENTERED: *April 5, 2001*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a certified true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed on this day to Mathew J. Sykes, R.N., L.N.P., at Rt. 3, Box 414-D, Lebanon, Virginia 24266, to Jay H. Steele, Esquire, at P. O. Box 2577, Lebanon, Virginia 24266, and to Dennis E. Jones, Esquire, at P. O. Box 1237, Lebanon, Virginia 24266.

Nancy K. Durrett
Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

April 5, 2001
Date