

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:**

**JESSICA R. NEEDHAM, L.P.N.  
LICENSE NO.: 0002-073482**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on March 21, 2012, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Jessica R. Needham, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing practical nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Howard M. Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Needham was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Jessica R. Needham, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-073482 to practice as a practical nurse in the Commonwealth on May 25, 2006, which is scheduled to expire October 31, 2012. Ms. Needham's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Based upon the representations of Mr. Kazzie and Commonwealth's Exhibits #1 and #2, the Notice of Formal Hearing and Affidavit of Mailing, the presiding officer ruled that adequate notice was provided to the respondent and the hearing proceeded in her absence.

3. Between March 1, 2010, and October 16, 2010, Dr. Walid Saado wrote Ms. Needham, then a patient of his, five prescriptions for hydrocodone and one prescriptions for clonazepam with two refills. He did not write or authorize any other prescriptions for Ms. Needham in this timeframe.

4. Dr. Saado last saw Ms. Needham in his office on August 5, 2010, and he last wrote a prescription for her on that date. He did not write or authorize any prescriptions for Ms. Needham after that date.

5. On February 17, 2011, Ms. Needham attempted to fill a prescription for 90 Lortab tablets under the name Jessica Hobbs, purportedly written by Dr. Saado. Dr. Saado did not write the February 2011 prescription for Ms. Needham nor did he authorize the dispensing of this medication to Ms. Needham.

6. Between March 1, 2010, and the attempt to obtain Lortab on February 17, 2011, Ms. Needham fraudulently obtained more than 60 prescriptions for narcotic medication, including clonazepam (Schedule IV), Endocet (acetaminophen/oxycodone – Schedule II), Lortab (hydrocodone – Schedule III), oxycodone (Schedule II), and Xanax (alprazolam – Schedule IV), forged with Dr. Saado's signature. Ms. Needham fraudulently obtained approximately 60 of these prescriptions while under the care of Dr. Saado.

### **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

Findings of Fact Nos. 5 and 6 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(2) and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

### **ORDER**

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. License No. 0002-073482, issued to Jessica R. Needham, L.P.N, to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, is hereby REVOKED.

2. The license of Ms. Needham will be recorded as REVOKED and no longer current. Pursuant to § 54.1-2408.2 of the Code, should Ms. Needham seek reinstatement of her license after three years, she

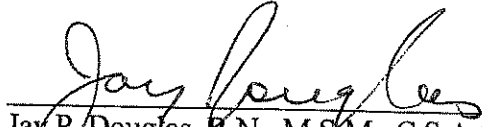
shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of her license prior to issuance of her license to resume practice. The reinstatement of Ms. Needham's license shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members at a meeting of the Board.

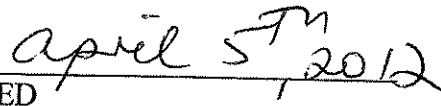
3. At such time as Ms. Needham shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, a hearing will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of Ms. Needham.

4. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Needham's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice practical 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 on request.

FOR THE BOARD

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

  
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ENTERED

**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 P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., 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.