

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: BRETT LARS CRAWFORD, JR., R.N.
License Number: 0001-254942
Case Number: 170426

RATIFICATION AND ORDER


On September 21, 2016, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Brett Lars Crawford, Jr., R.N. was not present nor was he represented by legal counsel.

In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing **ACCEPTS** the attached Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Agency Subordinate and **ADOPTS** the Recommended Order in its entirety.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 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(10), Mr. Crawford may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on November 5, 2016, notify Jay P. 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, in writing that he 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.

FOR THE BOARD

for 

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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

October 3, 2016

This Order shall become final on November 5, 2016, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on August 2, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Brett Lars Crawford, Jr., R.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Crawford appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Agency Subordinate makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and recommends that the Board adopt the following Order.

Notice

By letter dated July 8, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Mr. Crawford notifying him that an informal conference would be held on August 2, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. Brett Lars Crawford, Jr., R.N. was issued License Number 0001-254942 to practice professional nursing on October 15, 2014, which is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2018. At all

times relevant to the findings herein, said license was in full force and effect. His primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Brett Lars Crawford, Jr., R.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c), (e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”) in that during the course of his assignment with VCU Health System (“VCUHS”), Richmond, Virginia, through his employer ATC Healthcare Services, on October 23, 2015, Mr. Crawford diverted Dilaudid (hydromorphone, C-II) for his own personal and unauthorized use. As a result, his employment with ATC was terminated after VCUHS requested he not return.

3. At the informal conference, Mr. Crawford admitted to diverting the Dilaudid from VCUHS, and said that he took it and used it at home.

4. Mr. Crawford also admitted diverting medication from a former employer, Palomar Health, in Encinitas, California, in 2014. He indicated that he used the drugs intravenously.

5. Mr. Crawford expressed remorse for his actions.

6. Mr. Crawford indicated that he saw a psychiatrist for medication management, which he did not find helpful. He has not had any therapy to address his addiction and mental health issues.

7. Mr. Crawford said that he received information from the investigator with the Department of Health Professions regarding the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program (“HPMP”), but that he has not enrolled.

8. Mr. Crawford indicated that he has been working as a home health nurse for the past seven months with Medi Home Health and Hospice, Chesapeake, Virginia. Nancy J. Tobin, R.N., B.H.A. said in a letter said that she would “highly recommend Brett Crawford without reservation” and that Mr. Crawford “has proven to be a very reliable and competent caregiver who is well received by his patients.”

Recommended Order

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Agency Subordinate recommends that the Board issue an Order as follows:

The Board shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time, contingent upon Brett Lars Crawford, Jr.'s compliance with the following terms and conditions:

1. Brett Lars Crawford, Jr shall enter into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") and shall provide to the Board proof of entry into a Contract with the HPMP within 60 days of the date this Order is entered. Thereafter, Brett Lars Crawford, Jr shall comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.

2. This Order is applicable to Brett Lars Crawford, Jr.'s multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Brett Lars Crawford, Jr. 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 he seeks to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

3. 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.

4. Upon receipt of evidence of Brett Lars Crawford, Jr.'s participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Brett Lars Crawford, Jr.'s appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time he may be issued an unrestricted license.

Reviewed and approved on September 1, 2016
By Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N.,
Agency Subordinate