BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

KRYSTINA AGNES LOPRETE, R.N.

License Number:

0001-254481

Issue Date:

September 19, 2014

Expiration Date:

August 31, 2018

Case Number:

170656

AMENDED NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE AND STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

You are hereby notified that an Informal Conference has been scheduled before the Board of Nursing ("Board") regarding your license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

| TYPE OF PROCEEDING: | This is an informal conference before a Special Conference Committee of the Board of Nursing. |
|---------------------|--|
| DATE AND TIME: | August 1, 2016 9:00 A.M. |
| PLACE: | Virginia Department of Health Professions Perimeter Center - 9960 Mayland Drive 2 nd Floor - Virginia Conference Center Henrico, Virginia 23233 |

LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION:

- 1. This informal conference is being held pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10). This proceeding will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3700.
- 2. At the conclusion of the proceeding, the Committee is authorized to take any of the following actions:
 - Exonerate you;
 - Reprimand you;
 - Require you to pay a monetary penalty;
 - Place you on probation and/or under terms and conditions;
 - Refer the matter to the Board of Nursing for a formal administrative hearing;
 - Offer you a consent order for suspension or revocation of your license in lieu of a formal hearing.

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ABSENCE OF RESPONDENT AND RESPONDENT'S COUNSEL:

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear this matter in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above.

RESPONDENT'S LEGAL RIGHTS:

You have the right to the information on which the Committee will rely in making its decision, to be represented by counsel at this proceeding, to subpoena witnesses and/or documents, and to present relevant evidence on your behalf.

COMMONWEALTH'S EXHIBIT:

You have already been provided a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.

FILING DEADLINES:

- 1. Deadline for filing exhibits: **July 25, 2016.** Submit 7 copies of all documents you want the Board to consider to Sylvia Tamayo-Suijk, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. Exhibits may not be sent by facsimile or e-mail.
- 2. Deadline for filing motions, including motions for continuance or objections to exhibits, in writing, to Sylvia Tamayo-Suijk at the above address: **July 25, 2016**. NOTE: Failure to object to the distribution prior to the proceeding will not affect your right to contest any information contained in these documents at the proceeding.

STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

The Board of Nursing alleges that:

- 1. At all times relevant hereto, Krystina Agnes Loprete, R.N. was licensed to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 2. Krystina Agnes Loprete, R.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that during the course of her employment with Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia ("SNGH"):
- a. By her own admission, Ms. Loprete failed to perform assessments on each patient assigned to her. For example, on or about September 30, 2015 Ms. Loprete failed to assess and coordinate the care of Patient A.
- b. By her own admission, Ms. Loprete bypassed the bar scanning safety system designed to prevent medication administration errors and failed to document the administration of medications to her patients. For example, on or about September 29, 2015, Ms. Loprete administered ordered IV meropenem to Patient B. However, Ms. Loprete failed to scan the medication or the patient before administering the IV.
- c. On or about October 1, 2015, Ms. Loprete failed to start the administration of Xarelto (rivaroxaban) to Patient A at 0100 hours as ordered. Instead, Ms. Loprete administered the medication at 0731 hours.
- d. By her own admission, Ms. Loprete failed to administer ordered Florastor (Saccharomyces boulardii) 250 mg PO TID and ascorbic acid 500mg PO BID to Patient C as ordered. On or about September 27 and 29, 2016, Ms. Loprete noted in Patient C's medication administration record that the ascorbic acid was "held" because Patient C "cannot swallow." On or about September 29,

2015 Ms. Loprete documented that the Florastor was "held" because "pt is npo." Ms. Loprete was instructed by the charge nurse to reschedule Patient C's medication administration, but she failed to do so. On or about September 30, 2015, at 0047 hours, Ms. Loprete documented that Patient C's orders were changed to reflect that the medications could be administered by NG-Tube. Despite the change, Ms. Loprete again failed to administer the medications.

- e. On or about July 28, 2015, Ms. Loprete permitted a patient to leave the hospital unit when it was unsafe for him to do so. In addition, Ms. Loprete failed to notify the patient's physician until after the patient eloped.
- 3. Krystina Agnes Loprete, R.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations in that, during the course of her employment with SNGH, by her own admission, Ms. Loprete did not use a stethoscope consistently in the performance of her assessments despite documenting breath sounds in patient records with specificity. For example:
- On or about September 30, 2015 at 0000 hours, Ms. Loprete documented in a. Patient B's flowsheet data report that he had "coarse and diminished" breath sounds, terms difficult to confirm without the use of a stethoscope. During an investigation conducted by SNGH, Patient B denied that Ms. Loprete had ever listened to his breathing.
- On or about September 29, 2015 at 2011 hours, Ms. Loprete documented in b. Patient D's flowsheet data report that his breath sounds were "equal bilaterally". Ms. Loprete admitted that she did not touch Patient C, but stated that she did listen to his lungs using a stethoscope. During an investigation conducted by SNGH, Patient D stated that Ms. Loprete did not touch him and only gave him medications. Patient D denied that Ms. Loprete listened to his chest."
- 4. Krystina Agnes Loprete, R.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations in that Ms. Loprete documented in Patient A's medical record that

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Patient A declined her medication because the hanging IV bag would make her room feel smaller. Patient A denied refusing any part of her care. During an investigation conducted by SNGH, Patient A stated that Ms. Loprete performed no assessment upon her admission to the unit and that Ms. Loprete informed her that her IV and medications would be started on the next shift.

July 2874 2016

See Confidential Attachment I for the names of the patients referenced above.

Gloria Mitchell-Lively, R.N., M.S.N

Deputy Executive Director Virginia Board of Nursing