

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: ANNE STEVENS, R.N.  
License No.: 0001-142751**

**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 January 29, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Anne Stevens, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Anne Glick Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division. Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Stevens was present and was represented by Lawrence Framme, Esquire. 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. Anne Stevens, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-142751 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on May 8, 1995. Said license is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2014. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. During the course of her ownership of Legs to Love Vein Care, LLC, from in or about February 2012 to in or about May 2013:
  - a. Ms. Stevens possessed polidocanol, a prescription drug, and syringes, which are controlled paraphernalia, without the authority conferred by §§ 54.1-3408 and 54.1-3466 of the Code. She obtained the polidocanol as a stock item from a mail-order pharmacy in Pennsylvania. The medication was sent to her home or to her in care of physicians' offices in which she was employed.
  - b. Ms. Stevens compounded polidocanol and saline solution contrary to the sterile

compounding requirements of § 54.1-3410.2 of the Code and without the authority conferred by § 54.1-3410.2 of the Code.

- i. Ms. Stevens mixed polidocanol and saline solution in batches at her home.
    - ii. Ms. Stevens stored the batches of mixed solution for later use.
  - c. Ms. Stevens evaluated and treated patients in their homes and developed a course of therapy for treatment of "spider veins" independently and without valid orders. She was the sole judge of whether patients were suitable candidates for the treatment.
  - d. Ms. Stevens injected compounded polidocanol and saline solution intravenously into patients' legs, in their homes, without valid orders and without direct supervision.
3. Ms. Stevens testified that she was taught to compound medications in a non-sterile environment by an R.N. and was not told of the requirement to use such compounded medications within one hour. The Board heard testimony that the Drug Control Act and associated standards require that medications compounded in a non-sterile environment must be used within one hour.
4. The Board heard testimony from the Department of Health Professions investigator that Ms. Stevens displayed syringes filled with compounded solution in her bag during an interview. The syringes had no discernible label attached.
5. Ms. Stevens testified that she is not familiar with the Drug Control Act.
6. Ms. Stevens testified that she contacted Board staff and understood that she needed to have a medical director for her independent business. Ms. Stevens testified that she did not know the definition of a "medical director" and did not seek clarification of the term.
7. Ms. Stevens testified that she was not operating under a physician's order when training for sclerotherapy, nor was she operating under a physician or pharmacist's orders when learning to compound medications.
8. Ms. Stevens testified that she did not believe she was authorized to administer or prescribe

medication, but could not articulate why what she was doing was not administering prescription drugs or prescribing the use of those drugs. Ms. Stevens testified that she believed that a writing on a piece of paper was the only form of a prescription.

9. Ms. Stevens testified that she did not treat veins larger than 3mm, but testified that she did not measure patients' veins for accuracy. She testified that she judged the size of veins visually.

10. Ms. Stevens testified that she had 250 patients in her files and treated close to 250 patients in their homes. Ms. Stevens testified that she kept track of individual patients' pictures by taking photographs of the patients' files and the patients' legs. Ms. Stevens was unable to demonstrate for the Board a system for ensuring the accuracy of the identification she used for the patients she treated. Furthermore, Ms. Stevens failed to demonstrate to the Board that her patients' records were maintained in a confidential manner.

11. Ms. Stevens repeatedly told the Board that she was trained in this manner. Ms. Stevens demonstrated a lack of insight into her professional accountability and the parameters of her license as a registered nurse.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (3), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(a) 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:

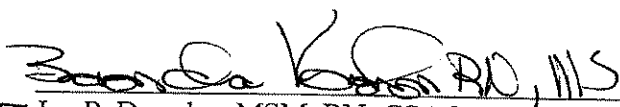
1. License No. 0001-142751 issued to Anne Stevens, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED for a period of not less than two years.
2. The license will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Stevens seek reinstatement of her license consistent with this Order, 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.

3. At such time as Ms. Stevens shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of nursing.

4. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Stevens' multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing.

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

  
So Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Nursing

Feb. 6, 2014  
ENTERED

Certified True Copy  
By drahan  
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.