

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

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## NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

September 29, 2011

Melony J. Blake, R.N. 5131 Richard Road Virginia Beach, VA 23462

**CERTIFIED MAIL** 71969008911101627945

RE:

License No.: 0001-206881

**Expiration Date:** 

September 30, 2011

Dear Ms. Blake:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") will be held on October 25, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia. In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), this informal conference will be held before an agency subordinate of the Board of Nursing. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code. The agency subordinate will inquire into allegations that you may be in violation of an Order of the Board entered September 29, 2010 ("Board's Order").

Specifically, you may have violated Term No. 1 of the Board's Order, which took no action against you, contingent upon your continued compliance with all terms and conditions of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, in that on or about February 18, 2011, you were dismissed from the HPMP for noncompliance, including failing to submit to a required urine drug screen in September 2010, failing to call in for urine drug screen test selection in October 2010, submitting a diluted urine drug screen in October 2010, urine drug screens that were positive for alcohol in November and December 2010, and failure to complete an assessment for residential treatment as directed by HPMP.

After consideration of all information, the agency subordinate may:

- If the agency subordinate finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- Recommend findings of fact, conclusions of law and a sanction, to include a reprimand, placing you on probation with terms, suspension or revocation of your license, or imposing a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code.

Further, the agency subordinate may refer this matter for a formal administrative proceeding pursuant to § 2.2-4020 of the Code.

## Board's Review of Agency Subordinate's Recommended Decision

If you appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation and move the case to formal hearing. If you do not agree with the decision of the Board, you have the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board.

If you fail to appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation. The Board's decision regarding the agency subordinate's recommendation is a final order that can only be appealed to circuit court as provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the agency subordinate in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the agency subordinate, and will be considered when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon your case. These documents are enclosed <u>only</u> with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the agency subordinate to consider to the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23233, by October 20, 2011. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, because absent good cause to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on **October 25, 2011.** A request to continue this proceeding must state **in detail** the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made, in writing, to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12 noon on October 20, 2011. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after October 20, 2011, will not be considered.

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice can be found on the

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Internet at <a href="http://leg1.state.va.us">http://leg1.state.va.us</a>. To access this information, please click on the Code of Virginia for statutes and Virginia Administrative Code for regulations.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact this office, at (804) 367-4543.

Sincerely.

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A. Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

## **Enclosures**

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division

David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist

Agency Subordinate

Patricia Sheehan, Senior Investigator (Case No. 137215, 137769)

Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager