

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: **PAULA DIXON CARTER, R.N.**
License Number: 0001-165197
Case Number: 173257

CONSENT ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Paula Dixon Carter, R.N., as evidenced by their signatures hereto, in lieu of proceeding to an informal conference, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Carter's license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Paula Dixon Carter, R.N. was issued License Number 0001-165197 to practice professional nursing on July 14, 1999, which is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2017. Her primary state of residence is Virginia
2. Ms. Carter violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that during the course of her employment with Chippenham Johnston Willis Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia, between October 2011 and February 2012, she diverted fentanyl (C-II) and Demerol (meperidine, C-II) from the unused portions of doses she administered to patients and self-administered these medications both at home and while on duty.
3. Ms. Carter entered into the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") in March 2012 and was granted a stay of disciplinary action with respect to her diversion of controlled substances. The stay was granted with the understanding that Ms. Carter would comply with all terms and conditions of her contracts with the HPMP.

4. On April 15, 2016, the stay of disciplinary action was vacated due to Ms. Carter's noncompliance with the HPMP. Specifically, she failed to report and provide medical documentation for certain opioid prescriptions, and she tested positive for morphine, for which she did not have a prescription.

5. In all other respects, Ms. Carter is currently compliant with the HPMP.

CONSENT

Paula Dixon Carter, R.N., by affixing her signature to this Consent Order, agrees to the following:

1. I have been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me or my license except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-4000 *et seq.*;
3. I acknowledge that I have the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact-finding conference before the Board; the right to representation by counsel; and the right to cross-examine witnesses against me;
4. I waive all right to an informal conference;
5. I admit to the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law contained herein and waive my right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any sanction imposed hereunder in any future judicial or administrative proceeding in which the Board is a party;
6. I consent to the entry of the following Order affecting my right to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The Board shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time, contingent upon Paula Dixon Carter's compliance with the following terms and conditions:

a. Paula Dixon Carter shall continue to comply with all terms and conditions of her Contract with the HPMP for the period specified in the Contract.

b. Paula Dixon Carter shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

c. This Order is applicable to Paula Dixon Carter's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Paula Dixon Carter 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 she seeks to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

2. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order shall constitute grounds for an administrative proceeding before the Board.

3. Upon receipt of evidence of Paula Dixon Carter's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Paula Dixon Carter's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 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 § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Carter's health records or health services.

FOR THE BOARD

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

ENTERED: August 18, 2016

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Paula Dixon Carter, R.N.
Paula Dixon Carter, R.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY/CITY OF Chesterfield, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to me, a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at large, on this
11 day of August, 2016.

Leigh Ann Horgan
Notary Public

My commission expires: 2-29-2020

Registration No.: 7686218

Certified True Copy
By: [Signature]
Virginia Board of Nursing

