

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: LINDA G. SPROUSE, L.P.N.
License Number: 0002-022310
Issue Date: May 26, 1976
Expiration Date: January 31, 2017
Case Number: 170560

**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 practical 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 1:00 P.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.

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:

Enclosed is 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. **These documents are enclosed only with the 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.**

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, Linda G. Sprouse, L.P.N. was licensed to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2. Linda G. Sprouse, L.P.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(a) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”) in that, during the course of her employment with the University of Virginia Medical Center, Charlottesville, Virginia (“UVAMC”), she made multiple practice errors. Specifically:


a. On or about October 16, 2015, Ms. Sprouse failed to review an urgent telephone triage call from a high-risk pregnant patient with a physician before giving the patient medical advice, which she was not authorized to do. After ending the call, Ms. Sprouse made a note to the patient’s physician in the patient’s electronic medical record (“EMR”). As the physician was out of the office, the patient’s medical note did not reach the physician until the next morning. Ms. Sprouse’s failure to review the patient information with the physician resulted in a delay of patient care.

b. On or about June 16, 2015, Ms. Sprouse failed to verify that a physician order existed prior to administering medication to a patient. In addition, she documented the administration of the medication in the patient’s EMR eight hours after it was given and incorrectly documented the time that the medication was given.

c. On or about January 8, 2015, Ms. Sprouse failed to notify a physician upon receiving a call from a patient complaining of left-sided numbness. When the patient presented to UVAMC for her scheduled appointment approximately four hours later, she was diagnosed with a cerebrovascular accident.

3. Linda G. Sprouse, L.P.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(m) of the Regulations in that, during the course of her employment with UVAMC, on or about April 1, 2015, Ms. Sprouse disclosed a patient's confidential information by reading the patient's test results out loud in the waiting room in the presence of other patients and the public.

4. Linda G. Sprouse, L.P.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations in that on her November 2, 2015 application for employment with Lake Monticello Primary Care, she falsely answered "No" to the question "Have you ever been involuntarily terminated from an employer?" In fact, Ms. Sprouse's employment with UVAMC was terminated on October 26, 2015.


Gloria Mitchell-Lively, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A.
Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

July 7, 2016
Date