BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

STEVA HAIRSTON, L.P.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT

License Number:

0002-068599

Case Number:

180813

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") held an informal conference on October 16, 2017, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Steva Hairston's application for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia and to inquire into evidence that grounds may exist to deny said application.

Steva Hairston appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated September 20, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Hairston notifying her that an informal conference would be held on October 16, 2017. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. On May 5, 2004, the Board of Nursing issued License Number 0002-068599 to Steva Hairston, L.P.N., to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Said license was mandatorily suspended by the Department of Health Professions on August 3, 2011. On September 22,

2003, in the Circuit Court of Danville, Virginia, Ms. Hairston was convicted of grand larceny (welfare fraud), a felony. Said conviction formed the basis of the mandatory suspension of her license.

- 2. Ms. Hairston submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing, which was received by the Board on March 25, 2016. By Order of the Board entered on August 4, 2016, Ms. Hairston was reprimanded and her application for reinstatement of her practical nursing license was denied, and she was continued on indefinite suspension. The Order was based upon findings that Ms. Hairston had been convicted of multiple felonies and misdemeanors of moral turpitude.
- 3. Ms. Hairston submitted another application for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing, which was received by the Board on March 14, 2017.
- 4. During the informal conference, Ms. Hairston acknowledged that she has not paid her restitution, fines and costs in full with regard to her criminal convictions in Danville and Pittsylvania County. She is still on criminal probation until 2018. She was incarcerated until October 6, 2016.
- 5. Ms. Hairston last practiced as a practical nurse in 2011. She provided supplemental evidence to the Committee of her education and training since her license was suspended, including evidence that she is a certified as a Qualified Mental Health Para-Professional. However, Ms. Hairston indicated on her application with the Madeline Center that she was qualified as Qualified Mental Health Professional, even though she was not. Ms. Hairston was employed at Madeline Center in July and August 2017 providing services to autistic children as a para-professional.
- 6. Ms. Hairston was employed with New Beginnings from July to September 2017 providing care to her mother and sister-in-law.
- 7. Ms. Hairston wants to work at Chatham Rehab Center if her license is reinstated, and was told she could fill out an application if her license is reinstated.

- 8. Ms. Hairston attends Danville Community College where she is taking courses in the science curriculum.
- 9. Ms. Hairston's husband spoke at the informal conference about her passion for nursing and her motivation to resume practice.
- 10. Ms. Hairston has demonstrated that she is safe and competent to resume practicing practical nursing with monitoring.

ORDER

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

- 1. The application of Steva Hairston, L.P.N., for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing is APPROVED and Ms. Hairston shall be placed on PROBATION subject to the following terms and conditions:
- a. The period of probation shall begin on the date that this Order is entered and shall end at such time as Ms. Hairston has completed one year of active practical nursing practice.
- b. The license shall be reinstated without restriction upon completion of the probation terms unless there is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of probation. In that event, the period of probation shall be continued indefinitely until such time as the Board makes a case decision in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (Virginia Code § 2.2-4000 et seq.) and Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(9).
- c. Ms. Hairston shall only practice practical nursing in a supervised employment setting pre-approved by the Board, which shall not include a home health setting, under the on-site supervision of a Board-approved licensed nurse practitioner, professional nurse, or licensed practical nurse for the first year of probation.

- d. Ms. Hairston shall submit "Self Reports" which include a current address, telephone number, email address, and verification of any and all current practice employment. These reports shall also include any changes in practice employment status. Self Reports must be submitted whether Ms. Hairston has current practice employment or not. The reports shall be submitted on a quarterly basis to the Board, with the first report due no later than 60 days from the date of entry of the Order and subsequent reports due the last day of the March, June, September, and December until Ms. Hairston is notified, in writing, that the reporting requirement is ended.
 - e. Ms. Hairston shall notify the Board within ten days, in writing, of any
 - i. changes in the location of her practice;
 - ii. additional practice locations;
- iii. change in employment, including termination, suspension, separation, or other interruption in practice (including the name and address of any new employer and the date of employment);
 - iv. change in address, telephone number, or e-mail address;
 - v. criminal charges or convictions.
- f. Ms. Hairston shall provide her current and each future practical nursing employer immediately upon employment with a copy of this Order in its entirety. Ms. Hairston shall ensure that the supervisor shall provide quarterly reports to the Board regarding Ms. Hairston's clinical judgement, clinical performance, recordkeeping documentation, medication administration, and overall performance. The reports shall be submitted on a quarterly basis to the Board, with the first report due no later than 60 days from entry of this Order and subsequent reports due the last day of the months of March, June, September and December until Ms. Hairston and her employment supervisors are notified, in writing, that the reporting requirement is ended.

- g. Ms. Hairston shall comply with the terms of her State probation. She shall ensure that the Probation Officer shall provide quarterly reports to the Board regarding her compliance with court-ordered probation. The reports shall be submitted on a quarterly basis to the Board, with the first report due no later than 60 days from the date this Order is entered, and subsequent reports due the last day of the months of March, June, September and December until Ms. Hairston and the Probation Officer are notified, in writing, that the reporting requirement is ended. Ms. Hairston shall provide the Board with a certified true copy of her final court order placed on record by the Court upon completion of her probation.
- h. Ms. Hairston shall sign all required authorization forms within 60 days of the date of entry of this Order allowing for unrestricted communication between and among the Board and her practice supervisors and her probation officer.
- The Board shall issue a license marked "Valid in Virginia Only: Probation with
 Terms."
- j. Ms. Hairston shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
 - 2. Ms. Hairston shall bear any costs associated with the terms and conditions of this Order.
- 3. Ms. Hairston shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 4. Any violation of the foregoing terms and conditions of this Order or any statute or regulation governing the practice of practical nursing shall constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.

- 5. Failure to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order within five years of the date of entry of the Order may be reason for revoking or suspending the license of Ms. Hairston and an administrative proceeding shall be held to determine whether to impose such action.
- 6. This Order shall remain in effect until the Board has notified Ms. Hairston in writing that she is released from probation.
- 7. The Executive Director of the Board is authorized to issue an Order or letter acknowledging satisfactory completion of the foregoing conditions or to refer the matter to an administrative proceeding for review of Ms. Hairston's compliance with the foregoing conditions.

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.

FOR THE BOARD

Virginia Board of Nursing

Jay Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.

Executive Director

Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED:

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Hairston may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on January 8, 2018, notify Jay Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order

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shall be vacated. This Order shall become final on January 8, 2018, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.