

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: REBECCA ADAMS COLLINS, R.N.
License Number: 0001-086403
Case Number: 169493

RATIFICATION AND ORDER


On July Day, 2016, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Rebecca Adams Collins, R.N. was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

In consideration whereof, the Board of Nursing ACCEPTS the attached Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Agency Subordinate and ADOPTS the Recommended Order in its entirety.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 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.

Since Ms. Collins failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Collins has the right to appeal this Order directly to the appropriate Virginia circuit court. As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Ms. Collins has thirty days from the date of service (the date she actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to her, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay Douglas, M.S.M, R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, at Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233. In the event that this decision is served by mail, three days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD




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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

August 3rd, 2016

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board of Nursing

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: Rebecca Adams Collins, R.N.
 License Number: 0001-086403
 Case Number: 169493**

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Allison Gregory, M.S., R.N., F.N.P.-B.C., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on May 26, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Rebecca Adams Collins, R.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Collins did not appear at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Agency Subordinate makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and recommends that the Board adopt the following Order.

Notice

By letter dated May 3, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Collins notifying her that an informal conference would be held on May 26, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice sent by certified mail was returned to the Board office on May 24, 2016, marked “Unclaimed.” As of May 26, 2016, the Notice sent by first class mail was not returned to the Board office. Accordingly, the Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Collins and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. Rebecca Adams Collins, R.N. was issued License Number 0001-086403 to practice professional nursing on September 15, 1982, which is scheduled to expire on May 31, 2017. At all times relevant to the allegations herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Collins violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c), (e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”) in that during the course of her employment with Heritage Hall, Wise, Virginia, she diverted benzodiazepine and narcotic medications for her personal and unauthorized use, as evidenced by the following:

a. On August 21, 2015, Ms. Collins documented on Resident A’s Individual Narcotic Record that she administered lorazepam 0.5 mg (Ativan, C-IV) at 16:15, 18:20 and 20:00, when Resident A was only to receive the medication twice per day, and had received her morning dosage at 08:45. A for-cause drug screen was administered to Ms. Collins and was positive for benzodiazepines and oxazepam (C-IV).

b. On August 10, 2015, Ms. Collins documented that she withdrew Lortab 10/325 mg (hydrocodone, C-II) for Resident B at 17:30, but failed to document the administration on the resident’s Electronic Medication Administration Record (“EMAR”). On August 13, 2015, at 14:00, August 15, 2015, at 14:10 and August 16, 2015, at 14:50, she signed the EMAR that she administered Lortab to Resident B, at times when she was not clocked in at the facility.

c. On multiple occasions between August 6, 2015, and August 20, 2015, Ms. Collins documented administering PRN lorazepam to Resident C, but failed to document the behaviors exhibited by the resident to require administration of the medication. Further, on or about August 6,

2015, at 20:00, August 10, 2015, at 18:00, and August 15, 2015, at 16:00, Ms. Collins documented withdrawing lorazepam to Resident C but failed to document administration on the EMAR.

d. On August 6, 2015, at 20:00, and August 15, 2015, at 20:00 Ms. Collins documented withdrawing Norco to Resident C, but failed to document the administration on the resident's EMAR. Further, on or about August 12, 2015, Ms. Collins documented withdrawing Norco at 19:30 and 20:00, but signed the EMAR as administering the medication at 19:23.

e. On August 19, 2015, Ms. Collins documented that she administered to Resident D two diazepam 5 mg (C-IV) at 20:00. The resident's order was for one tablet of diazepam to be administered at bedtime.

f. On multiple occasions between on August 1, 2015, and August 20, 2015, Ms. Collins documented that she withdrew oxycodone 15 mg (C-II) to Resident E, but failed to document the administration on the resident's EMAR.

4. Ms. Collins violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that she is unsafe to practice as a professional nurse due to substance abuse. On January 23, 2015, Ms. Collins' treating physician dismissed her from the practice for testing positive for narcotics the physician did not prescribe, and testing negative for controlled medications that she had prescribed.

5. On August 24, 2015, Ms. Collins' employment with Heritage Hall was terminated following a for-cause drug screen that was positive for oxazepam and benzodiazepines, for which Ms. Collins did not have a valid prescription.

6. Ms. Collins has held five nursing positions since March 11, 2011, and was terminated from two of those positions.

7. Ms. Collins told the investigator for the Department of Health Professions that she does not have an addiction to narcotics. The investigator provided Ms. Collins with a brochure from the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program. She has not contacted the program.

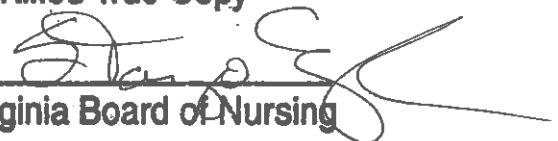
Recommended Order

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Agency Subordinate recommends that the Board issue an Order as follows:

1. The license issued to Rebecca Adams Collins to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license of Rebecca Adams Collins will be recorded as SUSPENDED.
3. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.
4. Should Rebecca Adams Collins seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Rebecca Adams Collins to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of professional nursing. Rebecca Adams Collins shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and/or renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

Reviewed and approved on June 28, 2016
By Allison Gregory, M.S., R.N., F.N.P.-B.C.
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing