

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Department of Health Professions
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Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE Executive Director

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NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

May 12, 2015

Pricilla C. Fox, L.P.N. 8 Hites Spring Road Luray, Virginia 22835

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL.</u> 9414726699042028499861

RE: VA License No.: 0002-075841 Expiration Date: September 30, 2016

Dear Ms. Fox:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") will be held on **June 1, 2015, at 2:00 p.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 have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically:

- 1. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (3), (5), (6), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) and (e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that during the course of your employment with Harrisonburg Health and Rehabilitation Center, Harrisonburg, Virginia, you diverted controlled medications for your own personal and unauthorized use as evidenced by an audit of five patient records covering a 30-day period, which revealed multiple discrepancies in your administration and documentation as follows:
- a. On multiple occasions in or about October 2014, you documented removing oxycodone 5mg tablets (C-II) and methylphenidate HCL 5mg tablets (C-II) for Patient A on the

controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration, return, or waste.

- b. On multiple occasions in or about October 2014, you documented waste of oxycodone 5mg tablets and methylphenidate HCL 5mg tablets pulled from the stock of Patient A on the controlled medication utilization record, without a witness.
- c. On multiple occasions between or about October 3, 2014 and November 4, 2014, you documented removing oxycodone 5mg tablets for Patient B on the controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration, return, or waste.
- d. On multiple occasions in or about October 2014, you documented waste of oxycodone 5mg tablets pulled from the stock of Patient B on the controlled medication utilization record, without a witness.
- e. On multiple occasions in or about October 2014, you documented removing oxycodone 5mg tablets for Patient C on the controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration, return, or waste.
- f. On multiple occasions between or about October 11, 2014 and November 4, 2014, you documented removing hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5mg/325mg tablets (C-II) for Patient D on the controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration, return, or waste.
- g. On multiple occasions in or about October 2014, you documented removing alprazolam 0.5mg tablets (C-IV) for Patient E on the controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration, return, or waste.
- h. On multiple occasions between or about October 28, 2014 and November 3, 2014, you documented removing hydrocodone-acetaminophen 5mg/325mg tablets for Patient E on the controlled medication utilization record, with no corresponding documentation of administration return, or waste.
- 2. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that on or about December 17, 2014, you submitted to a urine drug screen at the request of an investigator with the Virginia Department of Health Professions, which was positive for tramadol (C-IV), for which you did not have a valid prescription.

Please see Attachment A for the names of the patients referenced above.

In its deliberations, the agency subordinate may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 367-4515.

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/certificate/registration, 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.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in Virginia. Information about the HPMP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPMP prior to your informal conference, the agency subordinate will take that into consideration when making a recommendation in your case.

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 only 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 May 25, 2015. 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 June 1, 2015. A request to continue this proceeding must state in

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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 May 25, 2015. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after May 25, 2015, 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 Internet at http://leg1.state.va.us. 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) 367-4617.

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell-Lively, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A

Deputy Executive Director

GML/fdb Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Amanda E. M. Blount, Adjudication Specialist Ron Houser, Senior Investigator (Case no. 160289) Agency Subordinate Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager