



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health Professions

Board of Nursing

Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director
of the Board

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September 21, 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL

Z 057 545 267

Cynthia Elaine Bell-Clyde, L.P.N.
47 Virginia Street
Lawrenceville, Virginia 23868

Dear Ms. Bell-Clyde:

This is official notification that an Informal Conference will be held, pursuant to § 9-6.14:11, § 54.1-2400(10) and § 54.1-3010 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, on October 20, 1998, at 1:00 p.m., in the offices of the Department of Health Professions, 6606 West Broad Street, Southern States Building, Fourth Floor, Richmond, Virginia. You may be represented by an attorney at the Informal Conference.

The Special Conference Committee, which is comprised of two or three members of the Virginia Board of Nursing, will inquire into allegations that you may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations of the Board of Nursing, in that:

1. During the course of your employment with Central State Hospital, Petersburg, Virginia:
 - a) On or about June 29, 1997, in providing care to Patient A:
 - 1) By your own admission, you failed to document the patient's request for treatment of a migraine, and any treatment that you may have provided the patient, including medication and notification of staff.
 - 2) By your own admission, you failed to notify staff of the incident, although this patient had received a blow to the head on or about June 7, 1997.
 - 3) You failed to document any observations of this suicidal patient.
 - b) On or about August 14, 1997, your employment was terminated based on a violation

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of safety rules where there was a threat of bodily harm, specifically, you allowed a patient on the maximum security unit for the criminally insane to possess toe nail clippers without direct supervision. However, no harm came to the patient, and your employment was reinstated, with a ten (10) day suspension, a formal written notice placed in your personnel file, and you were transferred to another unit.

After the conference, the conference committee is authorized to take the following actions:

1. If the committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
2. The committee may place you on probation with such terms as it may deem appropriate;
3. The committee may reprimand you;
4. The committee may impose a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code; or
5. The committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Conference Committee is of the opinion that a suspension or revocation of your license may be justified, the committee may offer you a consent order in lieu of a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Conference Committee will proceed to hear the case in your absence, and may take any of the actions outlined above.

At least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the conference. This can be done by calling our offices at (804) 662-9950 or by sending us a letter at the address listed above.

You have the right to information which will be relied upon by the Board in making a decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents which will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee 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, and must be claimed at the post office. Please bring these documents with you.

If you have any additional documents to be presented to the Conference Committee, please bring five (5) copies of each document with you.

Also, enclosed are copies of the relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws and regulations relating to the practice of nursing in Virginia that are cited in this notice.

Cynthia Elaine Bell-Clyde, L.P.N.

Sincerely,



**M. Teresa Mullin, R.N., L.P.C.
Assistant Executive Director**

**MTM/alt/mls
Enclosures**

**cc: John W. Hasty, Director, Department of Health Professions
James L. Banning, Director for Administrative Proceedings
Leith D. Ellis, Senior Investigator (Case No. 98-00506)
Committee members
Ann L. Tiller, Senior Legal Assistant**