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VA BD OF NURSING

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: HEATHER N. BOWERS, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-088896

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Heather N. Bowers, L.P.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Bowers' license to practice practical nursing in Virginia.

The Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Heather N. Bowers, L.P.N. was issued License No. 0002-088896 to practice practical nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on April 29, 2013. Said license expired on November 30, 2015. She also holds licensure as a practical nurse in the State of West Virginia which shall expire on June 30, 2016. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. During the course of her employment as a practical nurse at Heritage Hall – Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, on October 2 and 3, 2015, Ms. Bowers diverted at least three tablets of Dilaudid (hydromorphone, C-II) from a patient for her personal and unauthorized use. She provided the resident with Zofran (ondansetron, C-VI) instead of his prescribed Dilaudid.
3. As a result of the incident, Ms. Bowers' employment was terminated.
4. On October 25, 2015, Ms. Bowers voluntarily sought treatment at the Watuga Recovery Center, Abingdon, Virginia, where she admitted to being addicted to opioids.

5. In an interview with the Department of Health Professions investigator on November 2, 2015, Ms. Bowers stated that she no longer wanted to practice nursing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that:

1. Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code") and 18 VAC-90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations").

2. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

CONSENT

Heather N. Bowers, L.P.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. She has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. She acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;
3. She acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact finding conference before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;
4. She waives all such right to an informal conference;
5. She admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;
6. She consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice practical nursing in Virginia.


ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS as follows:

- 1 The Board ACCEPTS the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER for INDEFINITE SUSPENSION of the right of Heather N. Bowers to renew her license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended.
3. At such time as Ms. Bowers shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of practical nursing. Ms. Bowers shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.
4. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2 of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as public record and shall be made available for public inspection or copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD



Joyce A. Hahn, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FNAP
President, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: 5/17/16

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Heather N. Bowers
Heather N. Bowers, L.P.N.

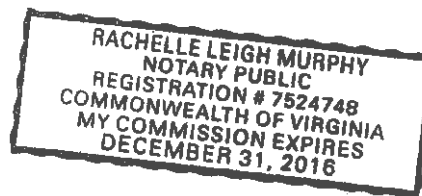
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF Stafford, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Rachelle Leigh Murphy, a Notary Public, this 11th day of March, 2016

My commission expires 12/31/16

Registration Number 7524748

Rachelle Leigh Murphy
NOTARY PUBLIC



Certified True Copy
By D. Fowler
Virginia Board of Nursing