

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: AMANDA S. GLORIA, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-090360

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), an informal conference was held before a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Nursing (“Board”) on February 9, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Amanda S. Gloria, L.P.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing practical nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Gloria was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Committee adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Amanda S. Gloria, L.P.N. was issued License No. 0002-090360 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on February 3, 2014. Said license expires on August 31, 2016. Ms. Gloria holds an expired Wisconsin license to practice practical nursing. Ms. Gloria’s primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated January 12, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Gloria notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 9, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 3748 Kingsmill Walk, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The certified mail receipt was signed and returned to the Board office. The Notice sent by first class mail was not returned to the Board office. Ms. Gloria contacted the Board on February 8, 2016 and said she could not attend the informal conference. The Committee Chair

concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Gloria and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

3. During the course of her employment with Sentara Medical Group, Norfolk, Virginia, on May 19, 2015, Ms. Gloria provided care to patients despite the fact that multiple coworkers observed her exhibiting behaviors such as walking sideways, being unsteady on her feet, slurring and garbling her words to the point she was difficult to understand, having slow reactions, and having “dreamy” or rolling eyes. Further, Ms. Gloria was observed by several coworkers struggling to perform basic duties of her job including remembering the names of patients and in which rooms she placed them, relaying information to patients over the telephone, and placing vitals in a patient’s chart. Ms. Gloria also told her physician assistant coworker that she planned to give a patient an injection, even though there was no applicable order. As a result of these incidents, Ms. Gloria’s employment was suspended and she was allowed to resign in lieu of termination effective July 8, 2015 after four months of employment.

4. Ms. Gloria’s pain management provider from Advanced Spine and Pain, Arlington, Virginia, stated to an investigator for the Department of Health Professions on September 2, 2015, that Ms. Gloria was safe to practice as long as she was only taking the fentanyl (C-II) through her intrathecal pump. However, if Ms. Gloria received oral pain medication in addition to her fentanyl pump, she would be at a “higher risk for performance issues.” In fact, Ms. Gloria has received prescriptions for oral narcotic medications on several occasions since the intrathecal pump was placed on December 23, 2012.

5. Between December 2012 and August 2015, Ms. Gloria received treatment at the emergency departments of Sentara Princess Anne Hospital, Virginia Beach, Virginia (“SPAHH”) and Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia, on several occasions complaining of breakthrough pain despite being under a pain management contract with Advanced Spine and Pain and using an intrathecal fentanyl (C-II) pump to manage her pain. Additionally, Ms. Gloria’s pain management provider noted that she has a “history of

taking more oral medication than directed and overdosing,” and on multiple occasions, emergency room physicians noted that the frequency of Ms. Gloria’s emergency room visits and medication history raised concerns of possible drug-seeking behavior and that she was using the emergency room inappropriately. In May 2015, the SPAH emergency department decided to stop giving Ms. Gloria oral narcotic medications.

6. On October 21, 2009, Ms. Gloria received treatment at SPAH emergency department after she was found unconscious after taking an unknown amount of Dilaudid tablets (hydromorphone hydrochloride, C-II) and heroin. Ms. Gloria admitted that she used nasal heroin to control her pain.

7. On August 7, 2014, Ms. Gloria was convicted of one count of misdemeanor driving while intoxicated in the Circuit Court of Caroline County, Virginia.

8. From August 22 through 23, 2014, Ms. Gloria received treatment for chronic pancreatitis, dyspepsia, and opiate/ narcotic dependence at the Naval Medical Center emergency department after an episode of confusion, dizziness, and slurred speech that occurred while she was working the same day. This episode occurred one day after her intrathecal fentanyl (C-II) pump dose was increased from .71 mg a day to .79 mg a day by her pain management provider.

9. On April 29, 2015, Ms. Gloria received treatment for anxiety and panic attacks at the Naval Medical Center emergency department. Ms. Gloria told her treatment provider that her anxiety and panic attacks had worsened since she had started a new job eight weeks prior.

10. On her application for employment with Sentara Medical Group dated January 9, 2015, Ms. Gloria wrote that she was employed with Heart Song Care, Newport News, Virginia from March 2014 through the present, and that her reason for leaving employment was that she “needed a steady pay.” In fact, Ms. Gloria’s employment with Heart Song Care was terminated on June 6, 2014 for improperly suctioning a vent patient in disregard of a request by the patient’s primary caregiver not to do so and then concealing the incident from Heart Song Care management.

11. Ms. Gloria told an investigator for the Department of Health Professions on August 14, 2015 that she wanted the Board to understand that she “can go from feeling just fine to not feeling well at all in seconds.”

12. To date, Ms. Gloria has not enrolled in the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(5) and (6) of the Code.
2. Findings of Fact Nos. 4 through 9 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
3. Finding of Fact No. 10 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

CONSENT

Amanda S. Gloria, 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 a formal fact finding hearing 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 a formal hearing;
5. She admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waives his/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. License No. 0002-090360 of Amanda S. Gloria, L.P.N. is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED for a period of not less than two years.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.
3. At such time as Ms. Gloria 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. Gloria 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:

Amanda S. Gloria

Amanda S. Gloria, L.P.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF VA BCN, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Veronica Ann Williams, a Notary Public, this 11 day of May, 2016.

My commission expires 4-30-19.

Registration Number 7384179.

Veronica Ann Williams
NOTARY PUBLIC



Certified True Copy
By M. Bunker
Virginia Board of Nursing