

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.N.
License Number: 0002-069123
Case Number: 169182, 170443

RATIFICATION AND ORDER

On May 18, 2016, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.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

for Gloria Mitchell-Lively

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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:

May 25TH, 2016

Certified True Copy

By *[Signature]*

Virginia Board of Nursing

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.N.
License Number: 0002-069123
Case Number: 169182, 170443**

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Jodi Power, R.N., J.D., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on April 13, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of practical 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 March 14, 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 April 13, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. By letter dated April 11, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent an Amended Notice of Informal Conference (“Amended Notice”) to Ms. Collins notifying her that an informal conference would be held on April 13, 2016. The Amended Notice was sent by overnight mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. According to the USPS tracking website, the Notice sent by certified mail was returned to sender unclaimed on April 6, 2016. The Notice sent by first class

mail was not returned to the Board office. According to the UPS website, the Amended Notice was delivered on April 12, 2016. 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. Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.N. was issued License Number 0002-069123 to practice practical nursing on June 29, 2004, which is scheduled to expire on April 30, 2016. At all times relevant to the allegations herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia. Ms. Collins also is licensed to practice as an emergency medical technician (“EMT”) in Virginia.
2. By Order entered August 14, 2008, the Board indefinitely suspended Ms. Collins’ license based on findings that Ms. Collins had diverted hydrocodone from her employer; that Ms. Collins was convicted of misdemeanor possession of stolen property and placed on first offender status; that Ms. Collins entered and then was dismissed from the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program (“HPMP”); that Ms. Collins was impaired due to a history of opiate abuse; and that Ms. Collins gave a patient with aspiration precautions a sucker, which the patient swallowed, resulting in emergency room treatment. By Order entered on February 6, 2009, the Board reinstated Ms. Collins’ license without restriction after demonstrating sufficient evidence she was safe and competent to resume practice.
3. Kathy Renna Collins, L.P.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), (6) and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”) in that during the course of her employment as an EMT with Richardson Ambulance Service, Marion, Virginia:

a. On two occasions, between September 7, 2015 and September 16, 2015, Ms. Collins pulled a fentanyl (C-II) patch off of a patient, while transporting the patient to cancer treatment, and kept the patches for herself. This alert and oriented resident reported that she could feel Ms. Collins remove the patch when Ms. Collins was supposedly re-arranging the patient's shirt.

b. On September 16, 2015, Ms. Collins took a bottle of medication labeled "hydrocodone" (C-II) from Patient A's bedside table. The patient's daughter was in the room at the time of the incident and immediately noticed that the bottle was missing after Ms. Collins left the room.

c. On October 27, 2015, Ms. Collins took a bottle of medication labeled "oxycodone" (C-II) from Patient A's bedside table. The patient's daughter witnessed Ms. Collins taking the bottle. A special agent with the State Police confronted Ms. Collins at the time of the incident, and she admitted to taking the bottle. Ms. Collins apologized to and told the patient's daughter she could not afford pain management.

4. As a result of these incidents of diversion, Ms. Collins' one year employment with Richardson Ambulance Service was suspended effective October 28, 2015, and her employment was terminated on November 6, 2015. During the meeting with Richardson Ambulance Service when her employment was terminated, Ms. Collins stated that she knew she needed help and that she had been referred to a pain clinic for her fibromyalgia but had not gone.

5. Ms. Collins violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that she is unsafe to practice practical nursing due to chemical dependency and/or substance abuse, as evidenced by the fact that during the course of her treatment with Carilion Clinic Wythville Family Medicine, Wytheville, Virginia, on October 15, 2014, Ms. Collins submitted to a urine drug screen which was positive for

oxycodone, which she was not prescribed. Prior to that time, Ms. Collins had been treated by her PCP for fibromyalgia and lower back pain only with hydrocodone.

6. During the course of her employment with Hands of Grace Assisted Living Facility, Marion, Virginia, Ms. Collins violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations in that, on August 9, 2015 at approximately 5:30 p.m., Ms. Collins handled a resident roughly, grabbing him by the arm and shirt and dragging him down the hall, while speaking to him in a harsh tone and cursing at him, and yelling at him to go to bed. This incident was observed and reported by two direct care staff members. By her own admission, Ms. Collins administered bed-time medications to the resident at that time, when the medications were ordered to be administered at 8:00 p.m. Further, Ms. Collins documented that she administered the medications at 8:00 p.m. although she administered them more than two hours earlier.

7. As a result of this incident, Ms. Collins' employment with Hands of Grace Assisted Living Facility was terminated on August 11, 2015, after seven months of employment.

8. Currently, Ms. Collins has been charged with one felony count of obtaining drugs by fraud pending before the Smyth County Circuit Court.

9. Ms. Collins is not currently enrolled in the HPMP.

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 of Kathy Renna Collins to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is REVOKED.
2. The license of Kathy Renna Collins will be recorded as REVOKED.
3. This revocation applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.

4. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2408.2, should Kathy Renna Collins seek reinstatement of her license after three years, the reinstatement of Kathy Renna Collins's license shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members at a formal administrative proceeding convened by the Board. At such time, the burden shall be on Kathy Renna Collins to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of practical nursing. Ms. Collins shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

Reviewed and approved on April 28, 2016
By Jodi Power, R.N., J.D.
Agency Subordinate

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing