

1401-178948

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:**

**MELISSA LESTER, C.N.A. APPLICANT**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on February 1, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon the application of Melissa Lester for certification by examination to practice as a nurse aide and to inquire into allegations that grounds may exist to deny said application. Ms. Lester was present and was not represented by counsel.

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On July 21, 2015, Melissa Lester submitted an application for certification by examination to practice as a nurse aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. By letter dated December 28, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Lester notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 1, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 1134 Fountain Road, Oakwood, Virginia, 24631, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. On January 22, 2009, Ms. Lester was convicted in the Circuit Court of Tazewell County, Virginia of four counts of uttering a forged check, all felonies, and four counts of obtaining money by false pretenses, all misdemeanors involving moral turpitude.
4. Ms. Lester expressed remorse for the actions that led to her convictions. She is currently on probation as she continues to pay off the court-ordered fines and restitution.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(4) of the Code.

2. The Committee concludes that Ms. Lester otherwise meets the requirements of § 54.1-3023 of the Code.

**ORDER**

On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The application of Melissa Lester for certification to practice as a nurse aide in Virginia is APPROVED. Upon successful completion of the NNAAP Examination, Ms. Lester shall be issued an unrestricted certificate to practice as a nurse aide.

2. Ms. Lester is hereby REPRIMANDED.

3. Ms. Lester shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a nurse aide commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.


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 on request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Lester may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **March 28, 2016**, notify Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

FOR THE COMMITTEE:

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board of Nursing

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

ENTERED: February 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2016

This Order shall become final on **March 28, 2016**, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.