

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: SHAUNDA M. BASSANI, C.N.A.
 Certificate No.: 1401-096255**

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on January 28, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Shaunda M. Bassani, C.N.A. may have violated certain laws governing certified nurse aide practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Amy E. Weiss, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Charis A. Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Bassani was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Shaunda M. Bassani, C.N.A. was issued Certificate Number 1401-096255 to practice as a nurse aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 29, 2003. Said certificate expired on January 31, 2016.
2. Based upon the representations of Amy Weiss, Adjudication Specialist, and Commonwealth's Exhibit #1, the Notice of Formal Hearing, Statement of Particulars and Amended Affidavit of Mailing, the presiding officer ruled that adequate notice was provided to the respondent and the hearing proceeded in her absence.
3. Ms. Bassani has a history of chemical dependency and mental illness, as evidenced by the following:

a. At the Tucker Pavilion, CJW Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia (“Tucker Pavilion”), from October 27, 2014 through October 31, 2014, Ms. Bassani received inpatient treatment for suicidal ideations and substance abuse. Her discharge diagnoses included a mood disorder and opiate dependence.

b. At the Life Center of Galax, Galax, Virginia, from November 9, 2014 through December 8, 2014, Ms. Bassani received inpatient treatment for chemical dependency issues with diagnoses including opioid dependence.

c. Ms. Bassani abused heroin from about 2009 through about 2014, with her use escalating in the latter part of 2014.

4. During the course of her employment with Henrico Doctors’ Hospital- Parham Campus, Richmond, Virginia:

a. On October 23, 2014, Ms. Bassani was sitting with a patient one-on-one, when the patient suffered a fall. When Ms. Bassani’s supervisor questioned her about the incident, Ms. Bassani had dilated pupils and was unable to recall what had happened to the patient.

b. On December 23, 2014, Ms. Bassani’s employment was terminated for unsatisfactory work performance after she had failed to perform her duties and disappeared from the floor for extended periods of time during her shifts without clocking in or out from November through December 23, 2014.

5. On January 8, 2015, Ms. Bassani told an investigator for the Department of Health Professions that her date of sobriety was November 6, 2014.

6. Ms. Bassani told the investigator that she had performance issues while working at Henrico Doctors’ Hospital-Parham Campus, but Ms. Bassani denied that she was ever impaired by drugs or alcohol during her employment and claimed that she resigned from her position after she was discharged from Tucker Pavilion.

7. As of January 8, 2015, Ms. Bassani was not employed as a certified nurse aide.

8. To date, Ms. Bassani has not enrolled in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that:

1. Findings of Fact Nos. 3(a) and 3(b) constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Findings of Fact Nos. 4(a) and 4(b) constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(5) and (6) of the Code.

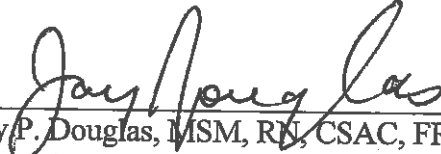
ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

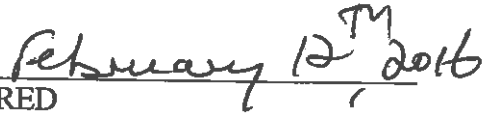
1. The right of Shaunda M. Bassani to renew Certificate No. 1401-096255 to practice as a nurse aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED for a period of not less than two years.
2. The certificate of Ms. Bassani will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Bassani seek reinstatement of her certificate consistent with this Order, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of her certificate prior to issuance of her certificate.
3. At such time as Ms. Bassani shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her certificate, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice as a certified nurse aide.

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.

FOR THE BOARD



Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing



ENTERED

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board Of Nursing