

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: GRETCHEN DAWN CHAPMAN, R.N.
a/k/a Gretchen Dawn Keeler Brown
License Number: 0001-159383
Case Number: 173801

RATIFICATION AND ORDER


On January 25, 2017, a panel of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.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. Chapman failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Chapman 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. Chapman 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



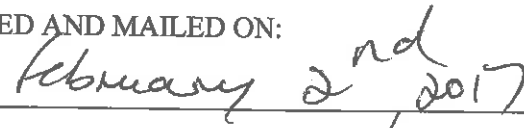
Jay Douglas, M.S.M, R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board Of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:



February 2nd, 2017

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE

Jurisdiction and Procedural History

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”), held an informal conference on November 1, 2016 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Chapman 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 September 27, 2016, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Chapman notifying her that an informal conference would be held on November 1, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board. The Notice sent by certified mail went unclaimed and was returned to the Board. The Notice sent by first class mail was also returned to the Board office as unclaimed. Ms. Chapman sent a letter, received by the Board on October 24, 2016, indicating that she was aware of the November 1, 2016 hearing, but would not attend. Accordingly, the Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Chapman and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-159383 to practice professional nursing on June 24, 1998, which is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2017. At all times relevant to the findings herein, said license was in full force and effect. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By Order of the Board entered January 29, 2016, Ms. Chapman was required to re-enter into the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") within 60 days of the Board's Order, and to comply with all the conditions of the HPMP. This action was based upon findings that Ms. Chapman had been dismissed from the HPMP for noncompliance, in violation of a previous Order of the Board entered October 6, 2014 which took no action contingent upon her continued compliance with HPMP. Specifically, Ms. Chapman accepted employment without the HPMP's approval and tested positive for alcohol during the period of her monitoring.

3. Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., violated Term Number 2 of the Board's Order in that she failed to re-enter into the HPMP.

4. Ms. Chapman failed to respond to multiple phone messages from the investigator requesting an interview.

5. In a letter to the Board of Nursing dated October 13, 2016, Ms. Chapman indicated that she was unwilling to re-enter the HPMP, and expressed her willingness to voluntarily surrender her license.

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. Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.

2. The Board accepts the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER for INDEFINITE SUSPENSION of Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N.'s license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

3. The license of Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., will be recorded as SUSPENDED.

4. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.

5. Should Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., seek reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding shall be convened to consider such application. At such time, the burden shall be on Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to the practice of professional nursing. Gretchen Dawn Chapman, R.N., shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and/or renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

Reviewed and approved on December 1, 2016
By Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N.
Agency Subordinate