

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: AMELIA V. DUNN, R.N.
 License No.: 0001-222202**

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on August 20, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia. Ms. Dunn was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel. Jodi Power, R.N., J.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On November 18, 2015, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Dunn was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Amelia V. Dunn, R.N. was issued License No. 0001-222202 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on November 18, 2009. The license is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2017. Ms. Dunn's primary state of residence is Virginia

2. By letter dated February 2, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Dunn notifying her that an informal conference would be held on March 31, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2322 Bishop Street, Petersburg, Virginia 23805, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. By letter dated June 20, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent an Amended Notice of Informal Conference ("Amended Notice") to Ms. Dunn notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 20, 2015. The Amended Notice was sent to

16901 Tranquility Drive, Sutherland, Virginia 23885, the most current address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The certified mail receipt for the Notice was returned unsigned. The Notice sent by first class mail was not returned to the Board office. The certified mail receipt for the Amended Notice and the Amended Notice sent by first class mail were not returned to the Board office. The Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Dunn and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

3. Ms. Dunn suffers from mental illness, as evidenced by the following:

a. From November 17, 2014 through December 4, 2014, Ms. Dunn received inpatient treatment at the MCV Hospitals of the VCU Health System, Richmond, Virginia for major depressive disorder, hearing voices, and suicidal ideations with a plan to carry out her intentions. Upon admission, Ms. Dunn thought that she was a 28-year-old woman named “Jenny Barfield” who had two babies, did not know where she was or what city she was in, and thought the year was 1997.

b. From January 3, 2015 through January 9, 2015, Ms. Dunn received inpatient treatment at MCV Hospitals of the VCU Health System for worsening depression with psychotic features and suicidal ideations. Ms. Dunn’s discharge diagnosis was major depressive disorder.

c. From March 29, 2015 through April 2015, Ms. Dunn received inpatient treatment at Southside Regional Medical Center, Petersburg, Virginia for suicidal ideations, depression, and hallucinations.

d. Beginning January 21, 2015, Ms. Dunn received psychiatric and medication management treatment at District 19 Community Services Board, Petersburg, Virginia. Between inpatient admissions, District 19 Community Services Board diagnosed Ms. Dunn with major depressive disorder, recurrent severe with psychotic features.

e. Ms. Dunn has a long history of treatment for mental illness with multiple

hospitalizations since the age of 14, including an admission to Poplar Springs Hospital, Petersburg, Virginia over 14 years ago, an admission to Eastern State Hospital as a teenager, and a prior MCV admission in 2005, and a previous Tucker Pavilion admission. During these hospitalizations, Ms. Dunn was treated for bipolar disorder with psychotic features, mania, and several suicide attempts.

f. One of Ms. Dunn’s providers at MCV Hospitals of the VCU Health System reported that Ms. Dunn had a history of noncompliance with taking medications.

4. Ms. Dunn has an admitted history of substance abuse including a self-described addiction to crack cocaine during her early twenties. More recently, Ms. Dunn reported using cocaine between about May 2014 through November 2014.

5. Ms. Dunn reported that she suffered a stroke in 2010. She also reported sustaining a traumatic brain injury in February 2012 that required two weeks of hospitalization at VCU Health Systems, Richmond, Virginia, which has since affected her memory and concentration.

6. During the course of her employment with Waverly Health and Rehabilitation Center, Waverly, Virginia, from July 31 through August 4, 2014, Ms. Dunn failed to document medication administration, outputs, tube feedings, and skin assessments for several residents.

7. As a result of these performance issues, Ms. Dunn’s employment with Waverly Health and Rehabilitation Center was terminated on August 14, 2014.

8. On her application for employment with Waverly Health and Rehabilitation Center, dated June 9, 2014, Ms. Dunn wrote that her reason for leaving employment with Heaven Sent was “interest in career move,” when, in fact, Ms. Dunn’s employment with Heaven Sent had been terminated on May 19, 2014 due to performance and documentation issues.

9. On April 7, 2015, Ms. Dunn told an investigator with the Department of Health Professions that she was currently unemployed.

10. Ms. Dunn’s social worker expressed “grave concerns” about Ms. Dunn’s ability to practice as a nurse, and Ms. Dunn’s treating psychiatrist indicated that Ms. Dunn was not ready to return to practice.

11. Ms. Dunn is not enrolled in the Virginia Health Practitioner’s Monitoring Program.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Findings of Fact No. 3 and No. 4 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Finding of Fact No. 6 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”).
3. Finding of Fact No. 8 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

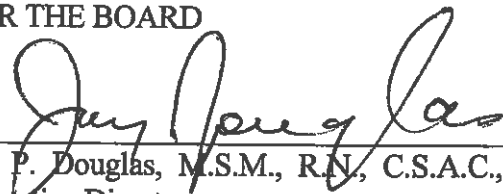
1. License No. 0001-222202 of Amelia V. Dunn, R.N. to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.
3. At such time as Ms. Dunn shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of professional nursing. Ms. Dunn 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 professional nursing.

Pursuant to § 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 a public record, and shall be made available for public

inspection and copying upon request.

Since Ms. Dunn failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Dunn 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. Dunn has thirty (30) 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 P. 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 (3) days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD



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

Entered:

December 14th 2015

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board of Nursing