



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.  
Director

## Department of Health Professions

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515  
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## NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

August 25, 2014

Jessica Topping, C.M.T. Applicant  
206 Brook Lane  
Yorktown, Virginia 23692

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
7196 9008 9111 9193 8440

Re: Application for Certification by Examination

Dear Ms. Topping:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), on **October 7, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.**, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 *et seq.* of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will receive and act upon your application for certification by examination to practice massage therapy in Virginia and will inquire into evidence that grounds may exist to deny your application.

Specifically:

1. You may have violated §54.1-3007(4) of the Code in that on August 14, 2008 you were found guilty of one count of felony child abuse and one count of felony unlawful wounding in the Circuit Court for the City of Newport News, Virginia.
2. You may have violated §54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that between August 14, 2013 and October 23, 2013 you were under the care of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board. While under their care you received a diagnosis of major depressive disorder (recurrent, moderate), mood disorder (not otherwise specified), and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (predominantly inattentive type). In addition, on your application for certificate as a massage therapist you indicated you previously received a diagnosis of bipolar disorder and post-partum depression.

The burden rests on you, as the applicant, to demonstrate that you meet the requirements of §54.1-3029 of the Code.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in

Virginia. Information about the HPMP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPMP prior to your informal conference the Committee will take that into consideration when deciding your case.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- The Committee may approve your application for certification;
- The Committee may approve your application and issue a reprimand, impose a monetary penalty or terms and conditions, or place you on probation; or
- The Committee may deny your application.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 367-4515, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by September 29, 2014. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. **These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.**

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice, can be found on the Internet at <http://leg1.state.va.us>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

Sincerely,



Brenda Krohn, R.N., M.S.  
Deputy Executive Director

BK/lba

Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division  
Special Conference Committee Members  
Wendy Deaner, Adjudication Specialist (Case No. 158134)  
Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager