

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C. Director

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 367-4569 FAX (804) 527-4455

September 15, 2015

Wanda Strother, R.N. 11 Montgomery Avenue Staunton, Virginia 24401

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 9414 7266 9904 2028 4916 36

Re:

Virginia License No.: 0001-109474

Expiration Date:

July 31, 2016

Dear Ms. Strother:

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 14, 2015 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 inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

## Specifically;

- 1. You may have violated §54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unsafe to practice nursing due to substance abuse and/or mental illness, as evidenced by the following:
- a. On or about October 27, 2014, you were admitted to John Randolph Medical Center, Hopewell, Virginia, under a temporary detention order, following an emergency custody order and medical clearance at Augusta Health Emergency Room, Fishersville, Virginia. You were taken to Augusta Health by the police because you had called them stating that you were suicidal and that you had a knife and intended to harm yourself. In addition, you stated that you had tried to drown yourself the day before in the bathtub. You reported that you drank two bottles of wine daily and that you had ingested wine and cough syrup. At your admission, you were combative, you had a blood alcohol level of 0.255 mg/dl, and your drug screen was positive for opiates.
  - b. On or about December 15, 2014, you were admitted to Crossroads at Augusta Health,

under an emergency custody order. At your admission you grabbed a nurse and tried to choke her. You reported that you drank two bottles of wine daily and that you had multiple personalities and you made suicidal statements while in the emergency room. You were admitted for alcohol intoxication and major depressive disorder. Your blood alcohol level at admission was 0.237 mg/dl.

- c. During the course of your employment with Liberty Point Residential Treatment Center, Staunton, Virginia, you called and gave your resignation on two occasions. On one occasion, in or about November, 2014, you resigned and reported that you were dying but then explained that your medical record had been confused with another person. In or about January 2015, you called and verbally resigned from your position and stated that you could not do the job anymore. However, the next day you called and asked to be taken off the schedule; when you were asked about your resignation, you did not remember the conversation.
- 2. You may have violated §54.1-3007(4) of the Code in that on or about May 28, 2008, in the Staunton, Virginia, General District Court, you were convicted of one count of misdemeanor filing a false report with a law enforcement officer, a crime of moral turpitude.
- 3. You may have violated §54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(n) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that on or about April 7, 2015, you told a Virginia Department of Health Professions investigator that you did not have any criminal history. However, you were convicted of one count of misdemeanor filing a false report with law enforcement on May 28, 2008, in the Staunton General District Court. In addition, you failed to report to the investigator that you currently have a charge of assault and battery on emergency health care personnel pending in the Augusta County General District Court.

In its deliberations, the Committee may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at <a href="http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing">http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing</a>. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 367-4515.

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:

- If the Committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the Committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate;
  - The Committee may reprimand you;

The Committee may impose a monetary penalty.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Committee is of the opinion that suspension or revocation may be justified, the Committee may offer you a Consent Order for suspension or revocation in lieu of 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) 367-4502, 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 October 5, 2015. 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 <u>only</u> 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 <a href="http://leg1.state.va.us">http://leg1.state.va.us</a>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell-Lively, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A.

Deputy Executive Director

GML/sts

**Enclosures** 

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Special Conference Committee Members Wendy Deaner, Adjudication Specialist Ashley Moran, M.S., Senior Investigator (161211) Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Coordinator