

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:       SUSAN JOHNSON, L.P.N.  
              License No.: 0002-045968**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on August 5, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Susan Johnson, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Johnson was present and was not represented by counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Susan Johnson, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-045968 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on May 28, 1992. Said license is set to expire on October 31, 2015. Ms. Johnson’s primary state of residence is Virginia. Ms. Johnson also held a license to practice practical nursing in North Carolina. Said license expired on October 31, 2013.

2. By letter dated July 6, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Johnson notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 5, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2755 Brandon Avenue, S.W., Apt. 12, Roanoke, Virginia, 24015, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. As evidenced by a North Carolina Board of Nursing Order, entered September 18, 2009, during the course of her employment with White Oak Manor, Burlington, North Carolina, on December 27,

2008 and December 28, 2008, Ms. Johnson failed to administer medication to multiple residents and falsely documented the medication administration. It was found that she administered medications to alert and oriented residents but failed to administer medications to residents with dementia. In addition, it was determined that during the course of her employment with Universal Healthcare of Raleigh, on July 24, 2009, Ms. Johnson falsified a controlled drug administration record by signing that a medication was wasted when it was in fact not wasted. Ms. Johnson's license to practice in North Carolina was suspended for a period of three months.

4. Ms. Johnson's license to practice practical nursing was reinstated by the North Carolina Board of Nursing on February 11, 2010, after her successful completion of an Ethical-Legal Decision Making course.

5. Ms. Johnson's employment with Universal Healthcare of Raleigh was terminated on July 24, 2009. Her employment with White Oak Manor was terminated on December 28, 2009.

6. On October 18, 2014, during the course of her employment with Our Lady of the Valley, Roanoke, Virginia:

a. Ms. Johnson gave a co-worker a medication from a resident's supply without a physician's order and for her own personal and/or unauthorized use. At the informal conference, Ms. Johnson stated that she understood that the medication was for a resident. She acknowledged that borrowing medications from residents' supplies was against company policy.

b. Ms. Johnson handled residents' medications without gloves on, left the medication cart unattended and unlocked, left the medication cart drawers open and unattended, and passed medications to residents but did not wait to observe them ingest the medications.

7. Ms. Johnson's employment with Our Lady of the Valley was terminated on October 22, 2014.

8. Ms. Johnson is currently employed at the Brian Center, Fincastle, Virginia. Ms. Johnson stated that the Brian Center is aware of the investigation with the Board of Nursing. A co-worker from the Brian Center was present at the informal conference and spoke positively of Ms. Johnson's practice.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of §54.1-3007(2), (5), (7) and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations").
2. Finding of Fact No. 6(a) constitutes a violation of §54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations.
3. Finding of Fact No. 6(b) constitutes a violation of §54.1-3007(5) of the Code.

### ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:


1. Susan Johnson, L.P.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Johnson shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed the following two NCSBN continuing education courses within 90 days of the date this Order is entered: *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses* and *Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know*. These courses shall not be credited toward the continued competency requirements for the next renewal of her license.
3. Ms. Johnson shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a licensed practical nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.
4. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or of any law or regulation affecting the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation

of the license of Ms. Johnson and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked.

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.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Johnson may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on September 16, 2015, notify Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

FOR THE COMMITTEE:

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

ENTERED: August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

This Order shall become final on September 16, 2015; unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

**Certified True Copy**

By   
**Virginia Board of Nursing**