

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: CYNTHIA WALDO, R.N.
License No.: 0001-240276**

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 July 7, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia. Cynthia Waldo, R.N., was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel. Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On September 16, 2015, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Waldo 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. Cynthia Waldo, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-240276 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on August 24, 2012. The license is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2016. Ms. Waldo's primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated June 12, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Waldo notifying her that an informal conference would be held on July 7, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2016 North Adams Street, Apt. 508, Arlington, Virginia 22201, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice sent by certified mail

was returned to the Board office on July 15, 2015, unsigned. As of July 7, 2015, the Notice sent by first class mail had not been returned to the Board Office. The Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Waldo and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

3. By Order entered October 6, 2014 (“Board’s Order”), the Board placed Ms. Waldo on probation for a period of one year under certain terms and conditions. This Order was based on findings that Ms. Waldo exhibited poor nursing practices and was diagnosed with substance abuse and depression.

4. Term No. 2 of the Board’s Order required Ms. Waldo to obtain an evaluation by a mental health/chemical dependency specialist satisfactory to the Board within 90 day of entry of the Order. Ms. Waldo failed to obtain the evaluation.

5. Term No. 4 of the Board’s Order required Ms. Waldo to have two supervised, unannounced random drug screens a quarter from a Board-approved testing entity, which included testing for alcohol. Ms. Waldo failed to make arrangements for testing and to obtain random drug screens.

6. Term No. 5 of the Board’s Order required performance evaluations from Ms. Waldo’s nursing employer to be provided to the Board, at her direction. Ms. Waldo failed to cause these evaluations to be sent to the Board.

7. Term No. 6 of the Board’s Order required Ms. Waldo to complete two NCSBN online courses entitled “*Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses*” and “*Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills*”, within 60 days of entry of the Order. Ms. Waldo failed to provide verification of completion of these courses.

8. Term No. 12 of the Board’s Order required Ms. Waldo to submit quarterly self-reports to the Board, with the first report due in December 2014. Ms. Waldo failed to submit any self-reports to the Board.

9. In a letter to the Board dated December 4, 2014, Ms. Waldo returned her license to practice professional nursing and stated that she did not plan to practice any longer.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 4 through 8 constitute violations of the Board's Order entered October 6, 2014.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. The Board ACCEPTS the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER for INDEFINITE SUSPENSION of Cynthia Waldo's license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.

3. At such time as Ms. Waldo 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. Waldo 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.

5. Ms. Waldo is hereby REPRIMANDED.

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. Waldo failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Waldo 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. Waldo has 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 days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD

Alana Mitchell-Lively
per Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

Entered: October 6, 2015

Certified True Copy

By *Stamp*
Virginia Board of Nursing