

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

June 12, 2015

Cynthia Waldo, R.N. 2016 North Adams St. Apt. 508 Arlington, Virginia 22201

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 9414 7266 9904 2003 2037 04

RE: VA License No.: 0001-240276 Expiration Date: August 31, 2016

Dear Ms. Waldo:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") will be held on **July 7, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.**, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia. In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), this informal conference will be held before an agency subordinate of the Board of Nursing. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code. The agency subordinate will inquire into allegations that you may be in violation of an Order of the Board entered October 6, 2014 (Board's Order").

Specifically, you may have violated the following terms and condition of your probation as specified in the Board's Order entered October 6, 2014:

- 1. Term 2 of the Board's Order, which required you to obtain an evaluation by a mental health/chemical dependency specialist satisfactory to the Board within 90 day of entry of the Order.
- 2. Term 4 of the Board's Order, which required you to have two supervised, unannounced random drug screens a quarter from a Board-approved testing entity, which included testing for alcohol.
- 3. Term 5 of the Board's Order, which required performance evaluations from your nursing employer to be provided to the Board, at your direction.

- 4. Term 6 of the Board's Order, which required you to complete two NCSBN online courses entitled *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability of Nurses* and *Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills*, within 60 days of entry of the Order.
- 5. Term 12 of the Board's Order, which required you to submit quarterly Self-Reports to the Board, with the first report due in December 2014.

The Board hereby offers to enter into the enclosed Consent Order with you in lieu of an informal conference in this matter. Please review this document, and should you consent to its terms, sign it in the presence of a notary public. In order for this Consent Order to become effective, you must return the entire document bearing your witnessed signature to the Board office on or before June 29, 2015. Upon its receipt in the Board office, the Consent Order will be entered upon approval by the Board and the informal conference will be cancelled. You will receive a certified copy of the Consent Order, bearing the date of entry, shortly thereafter. Should the Board not receive this signed Consent Order from you by 5:00 p.m. on June 29, 2015, the Board will proceed with the informal conference as scheduled.

After consideration of all information, the agency subordinate may:

- If the agency subordinate finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth; or
- Recommend findings of fact, conclusions of law and a sanction, to include a reprimand, placing you on probation with terms, suspension or revocation of your license, or imposing a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code.

Further, the agency subordinate may refer this matter for a formal administrative proceeding pursuant to § 2.2-4020 of the Code.

Board's Review of Agency Subordinate's Recommended Decision

If you appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation and move the case to formal hearing. If you do not agree with the decision of the Board, you have the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board.

If you fail to appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation. The Board's decision regarding the agency subordinate's recommendation is a final order that can only be appealed to circuit court as provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

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You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the agency subordinate in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the agency subordinate, and will be considered when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon 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.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the agency subordinate to consider to the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23233, by June 30, 2015. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, because absent good cause to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on July 7, 2015. A request to continue this proceeding must state in **detail** the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made, in writing, to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12 noon on June 30, 2015. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after June 30, 2015, will not be considered.

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.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact our office, at (804) 367-4502.

Sincerely.

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

Deputy Executive Director

GM-L/sts

Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist Agency Subordinate Tonya James, Compliance Case Manager (Case No. 160630)