

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: MARY KATHRYN HONSINGER, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT
License Number: 0001-215408
Case Number: 172245

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11), a panel of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) held a formal administrative hearing on May 16, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Mary K. Honsinger's application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mary Kathryn Honsinger, R.N. appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated April 29, 2016, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Formal Hearing (“Notice”) to Ms. Honsinger notifying her that a formal administrative hearing would be held on May 16, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Mary K. Honsinger was issued License No. 0001-215408 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth on September 15, 2008. Said license was mandatorily suspended by the Department of Health Professions on February 2, 2016. She also held License No. RN1026637 to

practice professional nursing in the District of Columbia, which was suspended on August 27, 2014, due to a previous action by this Board. Ms. Honsinger's primary state of residence is Virginia. Ms. Honsinger submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing, which was received by the Board on February 22, 2016.

2. In January 2013, Ms. Honsinger tested positive for heroin during a pre-employment drug screen with Bayhealth Medical Center, Dover, Delaware, where she had sought employment pursuant to her multistate privilege.

3. In 2013, the Department of Health Professions investigated a complaint against Ms. Honsinger regarding suspected impairment at work and abandonment of her shift. During the investigation, she admitted that she had falsified multiple employment applications and had used synthetic urine to pass pre-employment drug screens and substance abuse treatment-related drug screens.

4. Ms. Honsinger entered the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") in July 2013, at which time she admitted to an extensive history of substance abuse including cocaine, heroin, Dilaudid, methamphetamines and Ritalin. She participated in substance abuse treatment in the latter half of 2013, but she was dismissed from HPMP for noncompliance in January 2014. She enrolled in HPMP again in August 2014 and was again dismissed for noncompliance in March 2015.

5. By Order dated February 14, 2014, this Board reprimanded Ms. Honsinger and indefinitely suspended her license, staying the suspension contingent upon her continued compliance with HPMP (which, at the time, she was enrolled in for the first time).

6. In August 2014, the D.C. Board of Nursing indefinitely suspended Ms. Honsinger's D.C. license based on the Virginia Board's February 14, 2014, Order.

7. On April 10, 2015, Ms. Honsinger was convicted in the Circuit Court of New Kent County, Virginia, of prescription fraud, a felony. On July 21, 2015, she was convicted in the Williamsburg/James City County, Virginia Circuit Court of possession of heroin, a felony. The heroin conviction followed Ms. Honsinger's unsuccessful stint in the first-offender program, during which she failed to comply with the court's requirements.

8. In August 2015, the Maryland Board of Nursing indefinitely suspended her multistate privilege to practice professional nursing in that state after making findings that in August 2012, while employed at a Maryland hospital, she had withdrawn narcotic medication on multiple occasions without a physician's order and without documenting the administration, waste, or return of the medication.

9. On September 30, 2015, Ms. Honsinger entered HPMP a third time and signed a Participation Contract in which she acknowledged her heroin and cocaine abuse. She entered residential treatment at Caron Institute from September 18, 2015, through October 21, 2015, and has continued aftercare treatment since then. According to her HPMP case manager, she is receiving naltrexone injections monthly to curb opioid cravings, participates in UDS and attends 12-step and Caduceus meetings. But for a missed call to the test line on December 9, 2015, Ms. Honsinger has been compliant with HPMP.

10. At the hearing, Ms. Honsinger stipulated to the facts articulated in the statement of allegations.

11. Ms. Honsinger testified that she is remorseful for her past actions. She further stated that she has a good support system in her family and boyfriend, and that she has a sponsor. She stated that her probation officer describes her as a success story. She further testified that she would like to work at a dialysis center.

12. Ms. Honsinger told the Board that treatment at Caron helped her gain insight and the tools necessary to handle the trauma that spurred her addiction and that it helped her learn that she is not a bad person. She told the Board she is consistently attending group therapy, NA meetings, and caduces meetings.

13. Ms. Honsinger stated that she believes her recovery will be enhanced if she returns to work.

14. Ms. Honsinger testified that her sobriety date is August 20, 2015.

15. Ms. Honsinger's boyfriend's stepmother testified on Ms. Honsinger's behalf. She testified that Ms. Honsinger was honest with her and her husband and that they are actively involved in Ms. Honsinger's recovery.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(5) and (6).
2. Findings of Fact Nos. 6 and 8 constitute violations of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(7).
3. Finding of Fact No. 7 constitutes a violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(4).
4. Finding of Fact No. 8 constitutes a violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), (6), and (8) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.
5. Finding of Fact No. 9 constitutes a violation of Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6).
6. Ms. Honsinger has not demonstrated satisfactory evidence that she is prepared to resume practice in a safe and competent manner.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Mary K. Honsinger, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.

2. The application of Mary K. Honsinger for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing is hereby DENIED.

3. The license of Mary K. Honsinger to practice professional nursing is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.

4. The license will be recorded as suspended.

5. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.

6. The suspension is STAYED and shall remain stayed contingent upon Mary Kathryn Honsinger's continued compliance with all terms and conditions of the Virginia Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") for the period specified by the HPMP.

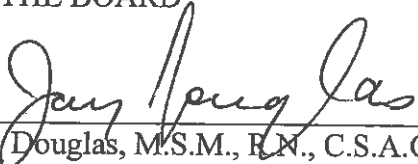
7. Upon receipt of evidence of Mary Kathryn Honsinger's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Mary Kathryn Honsinger's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

8. This Order is applicable to Mary Kathryn Honsinger's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Mary Kathryn Honsinger shall not work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where she seeks to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

9. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the stay of suspension shall be reason for summarily rescinding the stay of suspension of the license of Mary Kathryn Honsinger, and the license shall be recorded as suspended. After any rescission of the stay of suspension, a formal administrative proceeding shall be instituted.

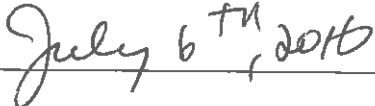
Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD



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

ENTERED AND MAILED ON:



July 6th, 2016

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in 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, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.

Certified True Copy

By 

Virginia Board Of Nursing