

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

**VIRGINIA SINENO, R.N.
License No.: 0001-176281**

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 August 3, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia. Virginia Sineno, R.N., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Jane Elliott, R.N., Ph.D., 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. Sineno 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. Virginia Sineno, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-176281 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 10, 2002. Said license expires on November 30, 2016. Ms. Sineno's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated July 10, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Sineno notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 3, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 1704 Church Avenue, SE, Roanoke, Virginia 24013, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke,

Virginia:

- a. On February 18, 2014, Ms. Sineno failed to document vital signs every two hours for Patient A. She also failed to place the patient on a cardiac monitor. Patient A was found by the oncoming shift with an oxygen saturation of 76%.
 - b. On February 19, 2014, Ms. Sineno failed to re-check the temperature of Patient B, who was admitted due to fever. She also failed to document vital signs every two hours, and the patient was found hooked to an empty oxygen tank. Ms. Sineno stated to the Agency Subordinate that she did not hook up Patient B's oxygen tank because she thought it was the technician's duty to do so. Ms. Sineno admitted that she was responsible for insuring that the patient's oxygen tank was set up properly.
 - c. On February 27, 2014, Ms. Sineno failed to administer an antibiotic to Patient D as ordered. Ms. Sineno stated that she checked the Pyxis machine several times and the antibiotic was not there. She believed that the medication was sent to the Emergency Department and then to the Transitional Care Unit ("TCU"), which caused a delay in finding the medication in the Pyxis.
 - d. On March 4, 2014, Ms. Sineo failed to place Patient F on a cardiac monitor. Ms. Sineno stated that she did not remember this incident.
4. In an interview with an investigator for the Department of Health Professions, the unit manager stated that there was no protocol requiring every patient to be on a monitor.
 5. Ms. Sineno admitted that her documentation was poor. She stated that she had trouble using the computerized documentation system.
 6. On March 5, 2014, Ms. Sineno's employment with Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital was terminated. There was no patient harm as a result of Ms. Sineno's actions.
 7. Three weeks prior to her termination, Ms. Sineno received a positive evaluation.
 8. Ms. Sineno stated that she understood that she was responsible for her patients' welfare. She

stated that she would often ask for assistance, but was told to “deal with it.”

9. Ms. Sineno stated that prior to working in the TCU, she was on staff at Carilion Roanoke Memorial on the psychiatric unit. She stated that when she went to work in the TCU, she did not have any critical care experience and thought that she would be “taught” how to handle the fast paced environment.

10. In April 2015, Ms. Sineno stated that she had a seizure of unknown origin. She stated that she lost some of her balance and has little recollection of the days after the seizure. She stated that she is currently taking anti-seizure medication and currently is not allowed to drive.

11. Ms. Sineno stated that although she considers herself semi-retired, she is currently employed with Maxim Healthcare working 17 hours a week, and assigned to provide care to a 22-year-old male client who was diagnosed with shaken baby syndrome and required total care. She provided a positive letter of reference from her client’s mother.

12. Ms. Sineno stated that she planned to move to Iowa and live with her daughter in a few months.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 3(a) through 3(d) constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Virginia Sineno, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Sineno shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed the following NCSBN online courses: *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses*; *Documentation: A Critical Aspect of Client Care*; and *Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills* within 60 days of the entry of this Order. These courses shall not be credited toward the continued competency requirements for the next renewal of her license.
3. Ms. Sineno shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse

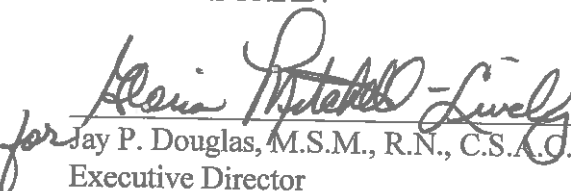
commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

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. Sineno and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked.

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.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Sineno may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **October 26, 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 he/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 BOARD:

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

ENTERED: September 22, 2015

This Order shall become final on **October 26, 2015**, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing