

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: KISHA KEITH, R.N.
License No.: 0001-212398

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 17, 2015 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Kisha Keith, R.N. may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Keith 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. Kisha Keith, R.N. was issued License No. 0001-212398 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on May 23, 2008. Said license expires on December 31, 2016. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated July 13, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Keith notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 17, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2865 Mount Olivet Road, Pulaski, Virginia 24301, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with Carilion New River Valley Medical Center, Radford, Virginia, on two occasions on January 7-8, 2015, by her own admission, Ms. Keith diverted hydrocodone/APAP (C-II) from patient supplies. She accomplished this diversion by removing two tablets from the Pyxis system

for Patient A, and documenting administering both tablets, but scanning only one tablet and keeping the other tablet. The patient reported receiving only one tablet each time.

4. Ms. Keith's employment with Carilion was terminated as a result of her diversion of narcotics. She self-reported her misconduct to the Board, as well as being reported by Carilion.

5. At the informal conference, Ms. Keith stated that she diverted the medications for the unauthorized use of a family member, who said that he was suffering from migraines and who was not working. She also revealed that she similarly diverted narcotics in December 2014 for her family member, but that this diversion did not appear on the hospital's audit. There were several other narcotic discrepancies in December 2014, which Ms. Keith attributed to her taking shortcuts contrary to hospital policy. She stated that at that time, she was having difficulties in her personal life and that her practice started getting sloppy. Prior to these incidents, Ms. Keith had been a team leader at Carilion and had received positive performance evaluations.

6. Ms. Keith stated that she received counseling and attended a recovery support group. She takes an antidepressant as prescribed by her primary care physician. She is not currently employed in a nursing capacity.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

ORDER

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

1. Kisha Keith, R.N. is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Keith 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.

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. Keith may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on October 5, 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:

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

ENTERED: September 2, 2015

This Order shall become final on October 5, 2015; unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy
By *S. S. S. S.*
Virginia Board of Nursing