

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: JAMES FORD, JR., R.N.  
License No.: 0001-200850**

**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 May 27, 2015 in Henrico County, Virginia. Mr. Ford was not present nor was he represented by legal counsel. Allison Gregory, M.S., R.N., F.N.P.-B.C., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On July 15, 2015, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Mr. Ford was not present nor was he 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. James Ford, Jr., R.N., was issued License No. 0001-200850 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on May 12, 2006. Said license expired on January 31, 2015. Mr. Ford's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated April 24, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Mr. Ford notifying him that an informal conference would be held on May 27, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2916 Ginter Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23228, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice sent by certified mail was delivered and signed for by Mr. Ford on April 25, 2015; the first class mail was not returned to the Board office. The

Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Mr. Ford and the informal conference proceeded in his absence.

3. By Board Order entered August 29, 2012 (“Board’s Order), the Board took no action against Mr. Ford’s license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, contingent upon his continued compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program (“HPMP”). This Order was based on findings that during the course of his employment with VCU Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia, between January 2010 and May 2010, Mr. Ford diverted 172 dosage units of oxycodone (C-II) for his own personal and unauthorized use. Mr. Ford was initially granted a stay of disciplinary action on September 22, 2010, following his entry into the HPMP; the stay was vacated in January 2011, because Mr. Ford tested positive for oxazepam (C-IV) on two urine drug screens.

4. On January 24, 2014, Mr. Ford was dismissed from the HPMP for non-compliance with his Recovery Monitoring Contract, as evidenced by the following:

- a. On December 2, 2013 and December 11, 2013, Mr. Ford tested positive for alcohol.
- b. On March 15, 2013 and May 13, 2013, Mr. Ford failed to submit a toxicology screen sample as required by the HPMP.
- c. On December 30, 2013, Mr. Ford stopped calling the toxicology test line and informed his HPMP case manager that he wished to resign from the program; Ms. Ford was asked to submit a letter of resignation, but he failed to do so.
- d. On January 22, 2014, Mr. Ford informed the HPMP that he did not intend to pay for urine drug screens and that he was working in a non-nursing position as the Director of Admissions at Envoy of Stratford Hills, Richmond, Virginia. On August 25, 2014, the Director of Nursing confirmed

that Mr. Ford is employed as the Director of Admissions and that his position does not require a nursing license.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 4(a), (b), (c) and (d) constitute a violation of §54.1-3007(6) of the Code and Term No. 1 of the Board's Order.

### ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. The right of James Ford, Jr., R.N., to renew License No. 0001-200850 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended.
3. At such time as Mr. Ford shall petition the Board for reinstatement of his license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether he is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of professional nursing. Mr. Ford 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. Mr. Ford 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 Mr. Ford failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Mr. Ford 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, Mr. Ford has thirty (30) days from the date of service (the

date he actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to him, 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 (3) days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD

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

Entered: *July 24, 2015*

Certified True Copy

By *Steph E*  
Virginia Board of Nursing