

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: TAFFY CONNORS, R.N.
 License No.: 0001-156032**

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), Taffy Connors, R.N., who holds License No. 0001-156032 to practice professional nursing in Virginia, which expired on October 31, 2013, is hereby given notice that a formal administrative hearing will be held in the presence of a panel of the Board of Nursing. The hearing will be held on July 15, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233, at which time Ms. Connors will be afforded the opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel.

At the hearing, Ms. Connors has the following rights, among others: the right to representation by counsel; the right to have witnesses subpoenaed and to present witnesses on her behalf; the right to present documentary evidence; and the right to cross-examine adverse witnesses. If Ms. Connors desires any witnesses to appear on her behalf, she must notify the Director of Administrative Proceedings, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in accordance with the Instructions for Requesting Subpoenas.

The purpose of the hearing is to inquire into evidence that Taffy Connors, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice in Virginia, as more fully set forth in the Statement of Particulars below.

STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS

The Board alleges that during her employment at Inova Fairfax Hospital and Inova Alexandria Hospital, as a “float nurse” from in or about February, 2013, until in or about April, 2013, Taffy Connors, R.N., may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) and (e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing in that she diverted Dilaudid (hydromorphone, C-II) and methadone (C-II) for her own use as evidenced by the following:

1. A pharmacy audit at Inova Fairfax Hospital dated February 10, 2013 – March 12, 2013, revealed the following instances in which after administering narcotic medications to patients, Ms. Connors failed to account for the remaining narcotics:

a. After administering 49 doses of hydromorphone 0.4mg to Patient A, which is dispensed in 1mg vials, Ms. Connors documented wasting 0.6mg one time. She failed to account for 28.8mg of hydromorphone.

b. After administering four doses of hydromorphone 0.7mg to Patient B, Ms. Connors documented wasting 0.3mg of hydromorphone three times. She failed to account for 0.3mg of hydromorphone.

c. Patient C’s order for methadone (C-II) in the form of 2mg/ml oral solution 5mg was discontinued on March 5, 2013, before Ms. Connors began her nursing shift. Nevertheless, Ms. Connors documented administering methadone oral solution to this patient two times after that date. In addition, she failed to account for two 5mg doses of 2mg/ml methadone oral solution 5mg.

2. A pharmacy audit at Inova Alexandria Hospital, revealed the following instances occurring on or about April 28, 2013, in which after administering hydromorphone to patients, Ms. Connors failed to account for the remaining hydromorphone:

a. Patient D was ordered hydromorphone 0.5mg. Ms. Connors documented administering three doses. She failed to document any wasting of hydromorphone. She failed to account for 1.5mg of hydromorphone.

b. Patient E was ordered hydromorphone 0.5mg. Ms. Connors documented administering three doses. She failed to document wasting 0.5mg of hydromorphone per dose. She failed to account for 1.5mg of hydromorphone.

c. Patient F was ordered hydromorphone 0.5mg. Ms. Connors documented administering eight doses. She documented wasting 0.5mg of hydromorphone three times. She failed to account for 2.5mg of hydromorphone.

FOR THE BOARD

for *Alena Mitchell Lively*
Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, PRE
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

ENTERED: *June 23, 2015*