

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: TAMELA S. WILLIAMSON, R.N., C.N.S.
License No.: 0001-094356
Registration No.: 0015-000199

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on July 15, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., may have violated certain terms and conditions imposed on her, as set forth in the Order of the Board entered on February 7, 2014, and to inquire into evidence that Ms. Williamson may have violated certain laws governing professional nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Tammie D. Jones, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Williamson was present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., was issued License No. 0001-094356 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on August 22, 1984. She was issued Registration No. 0015-000199 to practice as a clinical nurse specialist on January 23, 1991. Said license and registration were indefinitely suspended by Order of the Board entered on February 7, 2014, with the suspension stayed contingent upon Ms. Williamson's compliance with certain terms and conditions. The action was based upon findings that Ms. Williamson failed to comply with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") and was also convicted of driving while under the influence.

By letter dated March 19, 2015, the stay of suspension was summarily rescinded. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Williamson re-entered the HPMP on January 27, 2014. On January 26, 2015, Ms. Williamson was dismissed due to noncompliance. Specifically:

a. Ms. Williamson admitted to drinking alcohol on May 16 and 17, 2014, December 12 and 13, 2014, and January 1, 2015.

b. Ms. Williamson failed to call the drug screen test line on August 28 and November 28, 2014.

c. Ms. Williamson failed to submit to drug screening on five occasions between November 28, 2014 and January 9, 2015.

d. Ms. Williamson failed to enter and complete substance abuse treatment as recommended.

3. Ms. Williamson reported a sobriety date of January 25, 2015, and that she continues to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings four to five times a week. Ms. Williamson sees her sponsor once per week. Ms. Williamson testified she is working on the ninth step.

4. Ms. Williamson's current sponsor spoke on her behalf. Ms. Williamson's sponsor is also a nurse and is in the HPMP.

5. Ms. Williamson also reported that she has resumed mental health counseling, but failed to provide any documentation from the therapist.

6. Ms. Williamson testified she has not worked as a nurse since 2012. To stay current with the practice of nursing, Ms. Williamson testified that she has remained a member of the oncology nursing society and reviewed their journals. She has also renewed her advanced oncology certification, which required the completion of 125 continuing education hours. She has completed online education to stay current, despite not working as a nurse.

While Ms. Williamson did not provide evidence of completion of the 125 hours, she did provide the Board with her oncology certification card, which was current and valid.

7. Ms. Williamson testified that she would be willing to return to the HPMP if ordered to do so by the Board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code and Term No. 6 of the Order entered February 7, 2014.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. License No. 0001-094356 issued to Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is CONTINUED on INDEFINITE SUSPENSION.
3. Registration No. 0015-000199 issued to Ms. Williamson to practice as a clinical nurse specialist is CONTINUED on INDEFINITE SUSPENSION.
4. The license and registration of Ms. Williamson will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Williamson seek reinstatement of her license and registration consistent with this Order, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of her license and registration prior to issuance of her license and registration to resume practice.
5. At such time as Ms. Williamson shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license and registration, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of professional nursing.
6. These suspensions shall be STAYED upon proof of Ms. Williamson's re-entry into the HPMP. Thereafter, the following terms and conditions shall apply:

a. Ms. Williamson shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPMP.

b. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for summarily rescinding the stay of indefinite suspension of the license and registration of Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license and registration shall be revoked. The stay of indefinite suspension may be summarily rescinded at such time the Board is notified that:

i. Ms. Williamson is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP, or

ii. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation involving a violation of law, regulation or any term or condition of this Order.

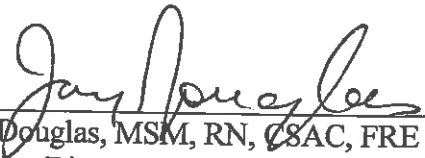
7. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Williamson's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Williamson's appearance before the Board, and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an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

8. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Williamson's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. It is further ordered that for the duration of this Order, Ms. Williamson may 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 wishes to work.

9. Ms. Williamson shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse and clinical nurse specialist 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.

FOR THE BOARD



Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED July 22nd, 2015

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, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, 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