

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:       MICHELLE D. ADAMS, R.N.**  
**License No.: 0001-169119**

**CONSENT ORDER**

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Michelle D. Adams, R.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Adams' certificate to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

The Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Michelle D. Adams, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-169119 to practice professional nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on April 20, 2000. Said license is set to expire on September 30, 2013. Ms. Adams' primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Between January 2010 and April 2010, during the course of her employment with Henrico Doctors Hospital (Parham), Richmond, Virginia, Ms. Adams forged multiple prescriptions for Ambien (zolpidem tartrate – Schedule IV) and Lortab (hydrocodone – Schedule III) and filled them at various pharmacies. Ms. Adams admitted stealing four prescription sheets from an emergency room physician who worked at the same hospital and writing the prescriptions for her husband. She further admitted to ingesting the medications.
3. On September 22, 2010, Ms. Adams was granted a stay of disciplinary action in connection with the prescription fraud by the Board based on her enrollment in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP").

4. On December 7, 2010, Ms. Adams was approved to return to work as a professional nurse, and began working at Cumberland Hospital for Children and Adolescents with monthly worksite monitor reporting.

5. On March 6, 2012, Ms. Adams reported looking for employment elsewhere due to stressors at Cumberland.

6. Ms. Adams was approved for a position at Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems, ENT clinic, Richmond, Virginia, on March 23, 2012. Ms. Adams was required to obtain a worksite monitor for this position.

7. On April 23, 2012, Ms. Adams' case manager was notified that Ms. Adams had begun the orientation on April 16, 2012, without having signed a revised Recovery Monitoring Contract, as required by HPMP, or having obtained a worksite monitor.

8. Ms. Adams' HPMP case manager stated that he believed that Ms. Adams' commencement of employment without a worksite monitor was an inadvertent oversight on her part and that she has been otherwise very compliant with the HPMP. Treatment providers reported that Ms. Adams' performance has been very positive.

9. Ms. Adams remains employed with Virginia Commonwealth University Health System and has had no issues.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

#### **CONSENT**

Michelle R. Adams, R.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. She has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;

2. She acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;

3. She acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact finding conference before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;

4. She waives all such right to an informal conference;

5. She admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;

6. She consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

### **ORDER**

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The Board shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time contingent on the condition that Ms. Adams remain compliant with the terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.

2. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Michelle R. Adams, R.N., and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Adams shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:

a. Ms. Adams is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;

b. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Adams involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or

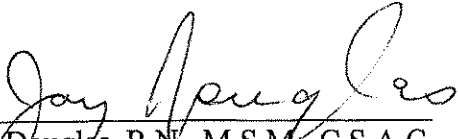
c. Ms. Adams has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Adams' participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Adams' appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

3. This Order is applicable to Ms. Adams' multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Adams shall 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 Ms. Adams wishes to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

4. Ms. Adams 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 upon request.

FOR THE BOARD

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

ENTERED: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Michelle Adams

Michelle R. Adams, R.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
COUNTY/CITY OF Richmond, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Pamela Crain, a Notary Public, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.

My commission expires March 31, 2015.

Registration Number 7389883.

Pamela Crain

NOTARY PUBLIC

