VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

DEBORAH SMITH GUILL, R.N.

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 October 22, 2009, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Deborah Smith Guill, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing in Virginia. Ms. Guill 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. Deborah Smith Guill, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-159136 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 17, 1998. Said license expires on December 31, 2010.
- 2. On February 19, 2009, Ms. Guill entered a Consent Order with the North Carolina Board of Nursing surrendering her privilege to practice professional nursing in that state for one year. This was based on Ms. Guill having reported to work at Women's Hospital of Greensboro, North Carolina, on December 30, 2008, with slurred speech and stumbling and later testing positive for marijuana.
- 3. At the informal conference, Ms. Guill reported that she had worked on December 29, 2008, and did not sleep on December 30, 2008. She took Xanax (alprazolam, schedule IV), for which she had a valid prescription, and went to work. Her employment was terminated as a result. Ms. Guill denied that she smoked marijuana.

- 4. Ms. Guill stated that she put herself in a bad situation and exercised poor judgment. She maintained that she learned from her mistake. Ms. Guill reported that she had developed coping mechanisms, had less stressors in her life and had a support system in place.
- 5. At the informal conference, Ms. Guill reported that she worked at Piney Forest Healthcare in Danville, Virginia, as the Minimum Data Set Coordinator. She worked only during the day shifts and she had at least two required drug screens, both of which were negative. She stated that her employer was not aware of the Board's investigation.
- 6. Ms. Guill stated that she saw an addiction specialist on October 21, 2009, as required for reinstatement of her North Carolina privilege to practice professional nursing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(5), (6) and (7) of the Code.

ORDER

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

- 1. The Committee shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time, contingent upon Ms. Guill's compliance with the following terms and conditions:
- a. Ms. Guill shall provide the Board with a report from her addiction specialist within 45 days of the date this Order is entered.
- b. Ms. Guill shall continue to comply with the recommendations of her current psychiatrist.

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- 2. Ms. Guill 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.
- 3. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Deborah Smith Guill, R.N., and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked.

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 COMMITTEE

Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.

Jecember 10 Th 2009

Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED:

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO FORMAL HEARING

If you do not consent to the Committee's decision and desire a hearing before the Board or a panel thereof, you shall notify, in writing, the Executive Director of the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233, within 33 days of the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon expiration of the 33-day period unless a request for a formal hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving a timely request for a hearing, this Order shall be vacated and the Board or a panel thereof shall proceed with a hearing as provided in § 2.2-4020 et seq. of the Code.