

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: GAIL WEATHERILL, R.N.  
License No.: 0001-081545**

**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 April 21, 2015 in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Gail Weatherill, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Weatherill 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. Gail Weatherill, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-081545 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on August 14, 1981. Said license is set to expire on November 30, 2016. Ms. Weatherill’s primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated March 23, 2015, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Weatherill notifying her that an informal conference would be held on April 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 508 Nottingham Road, Charlottesville, Virginia, 22901, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with Martha Jefferson House Assisted Living Facility, Charlottesville, Virginia, between March 2009 and July 7, 2014:

a. By her own admission, Ms. Weatherill failed to follow proper procedures and policies regarding destruction and documentation of wasted medications. Ms. Weatherill failed to have another individual witness her medication wastages, and she often soaked medications in the sink and flushed medications, including tablets, and narcotic patches and gels, down the toilet.

b. By her own admission, Ms. Weatherill administered or instructed other nurses to administer to patients narcotics intended for destruction, instead of waiting for the prescribed medication to arrive from the pharmacy.

4. At the informal conference, Ms. Weatherill stated that she had to prioritize her tasks and patient care was the most important. She stated that the proper destruction of medications was not a priority and her procrastination was part of the problem. In addition, Ms. Weatherill stated that she wrote many of the policies and procedures regarding destruction of controlled substances for the facility, but she did not follow her own policies and procedures.

5. At the informal conference, Ms. Weatherill stated that discontinued medications were administered approximately three times during her time at the facility. She stated that she understood that her practice of administering a previously discontinued medication was not acceptable, but the facility had a problem with receiving STAT medications from the pharmacy in a timely manner.

6. At the informal conference, Ms. Weatherill stated that she had a long history of depression that was aggravated by the circumstances at the facility, and her practice suffered as a result. Ms. Weatherill stated that she was overwhelmed due to staffing shortage and when she asked for help she did not receive any assistance. Ms. Weatherill is currently prescribed Effexor and Seroquel and she sees a therapist weekly or twice a week. Ms. Weatherill stated that years ago she had a problem with alcohol but her date of sobriety was June 24, 1997.

7. Ms. Weatherill's employment with Martha Jefferson House was terminated on July 7, 2014.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 3(a) and 3(b) constitute a violation of §54.1-3007(3) and (5) of the Code.

### ORDER

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

1. Gail Weatherill, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Weatherill shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed the following NCSBN continuing education course within 60 days of the date this Order is entered: *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses*.
3. Ms. Weatherill 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.
4. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or of any law or regulation affecting the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of Ms. Weatherill and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or 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.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Weatherill may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on July 13, 2015, notify Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

FOR THE COMMITTEE:

*for Gloria Mitchell-Simely*  
Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE  
Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED:

*June 9, 2015*

This Order shall become final on July 13, 2015 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

**Certified True Copy**

By *draham*  
Virginia Board Of Nursing