

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: PAMELA BLAKE, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-059508

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on February 24, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia. Pamela Blake, L.P.N., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Jane Elliott, R.N., Ph.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On May 20, 2015, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Blake was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Pamela Blake, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-059508 to practice practical nursing in Virginia on July 6, 2000. The license is scheduled to expire on April 30, 2016. Ms. Blake's primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated November 12, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Blake notifying her that an informal conference would be held on December 3, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2273 Saltville Highway, Saltville, Virginia 24370, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice was also sent to 326 ½ Pearl Avenue, Marion, Virginia 24354, a secondary address. On December 8, 2014, Ms.

Blake requested and was granted a continuance. By letter dated December 8, 2014, Ms. Blake was notified that the informal conference would be scheduled for February 24, 2015.

3. On March 29, 2013, and January 14, 2014, during the course of her employment with the Southwest Mental Health Institute, Ms. Blake tested positive for marijuana. Ms. Blake was selected randomly for the drug screen, and not for cause.

4. On Ms. Blake's last evaluation at Southwest Mental Health Institute, she was rated an extraordinary contributor. Ms. Blake had never appeared to be impaired at work, nor had she caused any patient harm.

5. Ms. Blake presented in an honest and straight forward manner. She admitted to smoking marijuana for 30 years, alone, in the privacy of her own home.

7. On July 10, 2001, Ms. Blake was hired at the Southwest Mental Health Institute. Her employment was terminated on January 22, 2014 because of the positive marijuana test.

8. Ms. Blake stated that she was currently employed with the Hands of Grace Assisted Living.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Pamela Blake, L.P.N., shall have an evaluation by a chemical dependency specialist satisfactory to the Board and shall have a written report of the evaluation, including a diagnosis, recommended course of therapy, prognosis, and any recommendations sent to the Board within 90 days after the date that this Order is entered. Upon receipt of the required information, the Board may request that Ms. Blake reappear before a Special Conference Committee or Agency Subordinate in

order to consider the specialist's recommendations and to make a final disposition of the matter.


2. Ms. Blake shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a practical 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 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. Blake and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked.

Pursuant to § 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 a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Blake may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on June 30, 2015, notify Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that he/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 BOARD:

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

ENTERED: May 27, 2015

This Order shall become final on June 30, 2015, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing