



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.
Director

Department of Health Professions

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov
TEL (804) 367- 4400
FAX (804) 527- 4475

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515
Nurse Aide Registry (804) 367-4569
FAX (804) 527-4455

NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

January 6, 2015

Patricio Gomez-Foronda, C.M.T.
499 Chick Cove Drive
Post Office Box 90
Hardyville, Virginia 23070

CERTIFIED MAIL
9414 7266 9904 2003 2629 30

Re: VA Certificate No.: 0019-001882
Expiration Date: March 31, 2016

Dear Mr. Gomez-Foronda:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), on **February 2, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.**, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 *et seq.* of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing massage therapy practice in Virginia.

Specifically, you may have violated §54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code, 18 VAC 90-50-90(2)(d) and (i) of the Regulations Governing the Certification of Massage Therapists and Sections XIV, XV, and XVI of the NCBTMB Code of Ethics, in that during the course of your employment with LaSource Spa, Kilmarnock, Virginia:

1. On or about November 16, 2013, and November 30, 2013, you inappropriately touched the vagina of Client A during a massage.
2. Between on or about October, 2013 and February, 2014, you inappropriately touched the vagina of Client B and made inappropriate comments to her concerning her being a "prude" or words to that effect.
3. On or about May, 2014, you inappropriately touched the genital area of Client C repeatedly

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Board of Long-Term Care Administrators – Board of Medicine – Board of Nursing – Board of Optometry – Board of Pharmacy
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Board of Health Professions

during a massage.

4. Between on or about June, 2014 and September, 2014:

- a. On one occasion, you penetrated the vagina of Client D with your finger while providing a massage.
- b. On another occasion, you inappropriately touched the vagina of Client D while providing her a massage.

Please see Attachment I for the name of the clients referred to above.

In its deliberations, the Committee may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing>. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 367-4515.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- If the Committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the Committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice as a certified massage therapist in the Commonwealth;
- The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate;
- The Committee may reprimand you;
- The Committee may impose a monetary penalty.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Committee is of the opinion that suspension or revocation may be justified, the Committee may offer you a Consent Order for suspension or revocation in lieu of a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 367-4515, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by January 23, 2015. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case.

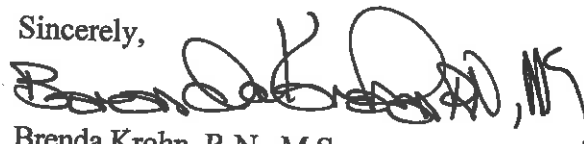
Patricio Gomez-Foronda, C.M.T.

These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice, can be found on the Internet at <http://leg1.state.va.us>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

In the event of inclement weather, please be advised that Board of Nursing hearings will be held unless state offices are closed. Please listen to television or radio announcements to provide information about official state closings or delays. If there is a delayed opening, hearings will begin at the time of the agency opening. A recorded announcement pertaining to closings or delays will also be available by calling the main telephone number for the Department of Health Professions at (804) 367-4400.

Sincerely,



Brenda Krohn, R.N., M.S.
Deputy Executive Director

BK/lba

Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Special Conference Committee Members
Wendy Deaner, Adjudication Specialist
Lisa Thomas, Senior Investigator (Case No. 159669)