

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: NAOMI K. LONG, R.N.**  
**License No.: 0001-138123**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on March 23, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Naomi K. Long, R.N., may have violated certain laws governing professional nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Tammie D. Jones, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Charis A. Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Long was present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Naomi K. Long, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-138123 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 17, 1994. Said license expires on August 31, 2016. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. On June 27, 2014, during the course of her employment with Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital, Virginia Beach, Virginia, Ms. Long wandered away from the facility during her scheduled shift. She was later found outside by her nursing supervisor, walking around in a confused state. Ms. Long was subsequently hospitalized at Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital for altered mental status. She was discharged on June 29, 2014, with a diagnosis of acute encephalopathy, likely metabolic/sleep deprivation.
3. From August 19 to August 25, 2014, Ms. Long was hospitalized at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia, for benzodiazepine and opiate dependence, panic disorder and

degenerative disk disease. Her discharge recommendations were to follow up with Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous and her psychiatrist at Tidewater Psychotherapy Services.

4. Ms. Long reported to the Department of Health Professions investigator that she has degenerative joint disease of the spine and was a patient at the Center for Pain Management for 20 years. She also reported that the Center stopped seeing her because she had not been released by her psychiatrist. However, she has not followed up with her psychiatrist because she does not believe that she has an addiction or drug problem.

5. On March 4, 2015, Ms. Long's physician from Neurosurgical Specialists, Inc., Virginia Beach, Virginia, reported to the Department of Health Professions investigator that he performed a cervical surgical procedure on Ms. Long on October 27, 2014. He last saw her on February 10, 2015, and is prescribing Percocet (oxycodone/APAP, Schedule II) and Skelaxin (metaxalone, Schedule VI). It is his goal to get her back into pain management or recommend that a chemical dependency specialist assist with weaning her off of the narcotic medication.

6. Ms. Long testified that she is unable to remember what occurred on June 27, 2014. She stated that it happened because she had been working twelve-hour shifts, had an illness in her family, and had not been sleeping. Ms. Long stated that she was unaware that she was having any problems or getting worn down. Ms. Long further testified that she has a long way to go before she reaches full health.

7. At the hearing, when asked to explain if she could safely practice as a nurse, Ms. Long told the Board that she could not think of anything to offer.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that:

1. Findings of Fact Nos. 2, 3 and 5 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").

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


**ORDER**

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. License No. 0001-138123 issued to Naomi K. Long, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED for a period of not less than two years.
2. The license of Ms. Long will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Long seek reinstatement of her license consistent with this Order, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of her license prior to issuance of her license to resume practice.
3. At such time as Ms. Long shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of professional nursing.
4. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Long's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing.

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 BOARD

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

APR 17, 2015  
ENTERED

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board Of Nursing

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.