

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: PAULA RENEE MOSES, L.P.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT
a.k.a. Paula Renee Johnson
License Number: 0002-085634
Case Number: 175581

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) held an informal conference on February 13, 2017, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Paula Renee Moses’ application for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Paula Renee Moses, L.P.N. appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated January 12, 2017, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Moses notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 13, 2017. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Paula Renee Moses, L.P.N., was issued License Number 0002-085634 to practice practical nursing on September 2, 2011, which was indefinitely suspended on April 7, 2015. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

1. Ms. Moses violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(6) in that she is unsafe to practice due to mental illness and substance abuse, in that between April 13, 2015 through August 1, 2016, Ms. Moses received outpatient treatment at Walnut Avenue Associates, Roanoke, Virginia, where she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and anxiety. At the informal conference, Ms. Moses admitted to a history of depression and anxiety but denied that she has bipolar disorder.

2. Ms. Moses violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(1) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations in that on the application for reinstatement of her Virginia nursing license, dated October 21, 2015 she falsely answered “no” to the question “do you have a mental, physical or chemical dependency condition which could interfere with your current ability to practice nursing,” when, in fact, she has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and anxiety, a history of major depression and a history of opiate abuse.

3. Ms. Moses stated at the informal conference that she has never had a substance abuse problem. She states that she was prescribed methadone for pain at the Roanoke Treatment Center, Roanoke, Virginia, a substance abuse treatment facility. She was then was referred to another substance abuse treatment center for suboxone therapy to address her pain.

4. Ms. Moses violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations in that, she provided false information on her July 17, 2014 application for employment with Salem Terrace at Harrowgate, Salem, Virginia, as evidenced by the following:

a. She stated that she left Pheasant Ridge due to “working conditions” when, in fact, her employment was involuntarily terminated. Ms. Moses stated at the informal conference that she just left her job without notice but does not remember why.

b. She failed to disclose her employment with Lewis Gale Physicians, Roanoke, Virginia, which was terminated for job abandonment due to excessive absenteeism and tardiness. Ms. Moses stated that she was not trying to hide anything; she simply forgot to include the job on her reinstatement application. She stated that in the future, if she felt she was having difficulties on the job, she would give proper notice prior to leaving.

c. She stated that she left Salem Health and Rehabilitation Center due to “too much overtime without approval” when, in fact, her employment was terminated for receiving two written warnings in a 12-month period. She stated that she had to work overtime because she was unable to complete her nursing duties on time.

5. At the informal conference, Ms. Moses refused to take responsibility for her substance abuse and employment issues.

6. Ms. Moses stated that her family is her support system. She does not attend Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous. She is receiving medication management from Walnut Avenue Associates but is not receiving any other mental health or substance abuse treatment at this time.

7. Ms. Moses said she is not currently employed and she has not practiced as a nurse since March 2014.

8. Ms. Moses stated that she has kept up with current nursing practice by reviewing her nursing manuals regarding prenatal care and nutrition. She stated that she is willing to do anything the Board requires to get her license back and if the Board reinstated her nursing license, she would love to work in a hospital or an urgent care setting.

9. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400.2(K), the Board considered whether to disclose or not disclose Ms. Moses’s health records or health services.

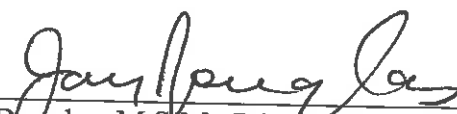
ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The application of Paula Renee Moses, L.P.N., for reinstatement of her license to practice practical nursing is APPROVED contingent upon Ms. Moses's entry into the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"). Thereafter, Ms. Moses shall comply with the terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.
2. Ms. Moses shall not practice practical nursing until written evidence is provided of passage of a Board approved nursing refresher course. Continuing education obtained through compliance with this term shall not be used toward licensure renewal.
3. This Order is applicable to Ms. Moses's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice practical nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Moses shall not work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where she seeks to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.
4. Any violation of the foregoing terms and conditions of this Order or any statute or regulation governing the practice of practical nursing shall constitute grounds for further disciplinary action.
5. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Moses's participation in and successful completion of the terms specified by the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Moses's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, 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.

FOR THE BOARD



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

ENTERED AND MAILED: February 27th, 2017

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Moses may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on April 3, 2017, notify Jay 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 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. This Order shall become final on April 3, 2017, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy
By 

Virginia Board of Nursing