

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Dianne L. Reynolds-Cane, M.D. Director

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
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Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC Executive Director

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

NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

July 18, 2012

Michelle Mullins, C.N.A., L.P.N. Applicant 1012 Rosemary Avenue Roanoke, Virginia 24014

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 7196 9008 9111 0161 5331

Re:

VA Certificate No.:

1401-060048

Expiration Date:

June 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Mullins:

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 August 13, 2012 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 certified nurse aide practice in Virginia and that you may be in violation of an Order of the Board entered May 27, 2010 ("Board's Order").

Specifically:

- 1. You may have violated §54.1-3007(3) and (6) of the Code in that you may be unsafe to practice due to your continued substance abuse, as evidenced by your positive urine drug screens for cocaine on or about December 7 and 21, 2011, and your resulting termination from employment as a certified nurse aide at Berkshire Health & Rehabilitation Center, Vinton, Virginia.
- 2. You may be in violation of Term No. 1 of the Board's Order, which required that you continue to comply with the terms and conditions of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") as originally required by Order of the Board entered May 27, 2010. You were dismissed from

HPMP on or about January 20, 2012 for failure to maintain your abstinence from alcohol and/or mind-altering medications and drugs, contrary to the terms and conditions of your participation contract.

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.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in Virginia. Information about the HPMP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPMP prior to your informal conference, the Committee will take that into consideration when deciding your case.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by \S 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 nurse aide 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 modify a previous order; or
 - 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 the Committee finds that there is sufficient evidence to find you in violation of the above charge(s) and §54.1-3007(8) of the Code, the Committee shall make a finding of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of patient property, which will be entered in the Virginia Nurse Aide Registry pursuant to 42 CFR §483.156(b)(2) and (c)(1)(iv)(D) of the Code of Federal Regulations. According to 42 CFR §483.13(c)(1)(ii)(B), such a finding will prohibit your future employment as a certified nurse aide in any long term care facility that receives Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement.

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.

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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 **August 8, 2012**. 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. 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.

Sincerely,

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

BK/lba

Enclosures

 Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Special Conference Committee Members Olivia Exterovich, Adjudication Specialist Carole Crutchfield, C.M.T., Investigator (Case no. 143058 & 143060) Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager