

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: ELIZABETH MEADOWS, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT
License No.: 0001-142782

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on February 9, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Elizabeth Meadows’ application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia. Ms. Meadows was present and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Elizabeth Meadows was issued License No. 0001-142782 to practice as a professional nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia on May 12, 1995. Said license was indefinitely suspended by a Consent Order of the Board entered on September 16, 2009, based on findings related to Ms. Meadows’ admitted diversion of drugs for her own personal and unauthorized use. Ms. Meadows was also issued License No. 698746 to practice professional nursing in the State of California on February 27, 2007. Said license was revoked on December 21, 2011, based on the action taken against her Virginia license. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Ms. Meadows submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice as a professional nurse, which was received by the Board on August 12, 2014.

3. By letter dated January 12, 2015, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Meadows notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 9, 2015. The Notice was

sent by certified and first class mail to 928 Pheasant Run, Williamsburg, Virginia 23188, the address of record on file with the Board.

4. At the informal conference, Ms. Meadows reported that she was previously enrolled in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), but resigned in February 2009, due to financial difficulties. She also reported that she participated in intensive outpatient treatment beginning in October 2008. She was discharged on June 5, 2009, due to excessive absences. The diagnosis at discharge was opioid dependence and alcohol abuse.

5. Ms. Meadows reported a sobriety date of October 13, 2008. However, a prescription monitoring report showed that Ms. Meadows was prescribed Tramadol in July 2014, and that she had prior prescriptions for Hydrocodone Bitartrate and Acetaminophen from three different prescribers from October 2013, with the last prescription being May 9, 2014. In addition, in an interview with an investigator with the Virginia Department of Health Professions on September 22, 2014, Ms. Meadows admitted that she drank a glass of wine prior to her dismissal from intensive outpatient treatment. She further reported that she was not currently in treatment, but expressed a willingness to return to the HPMP.

6. Ms. Meadows has not practiced as an RN since her license was suspended in September 2009. She submitted documentation of completion of 15 hours of continuing education completed between October 28, 2013 and August 11, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Committee concludes that Ms. Meadows is a candidate for the HPMP.

2. Ms. Meadows otherwise meets the requirements for reinstatement of her license.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The application of Elizabeth Meadows for reinstatement of her license to practice as a professional nurse in Virginia is APPROVED contingent upon Ms. Meadows' re-entry into and compliance with the HPMP, pursuant to Chapter 25.1 of Title 54.1 of the Code and 18 VAC 76-10-10 *et seq.* of the Regulations Governing the HPMP. Thereafter, Ms. Meadows shall comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.

2. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Elizabeth Meadows and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Meadows shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:

a. Ms. Meadows is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;

b. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Meadows involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or

c. Ms. Meadows has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Meadows' participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Meadows' appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

3. This Order is applicable to Ms. Meadows' multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Meadows 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 wishes to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

4. Ms. Meadows shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Regulations Governing the Practice of 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.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Meadows may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on April 3, 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 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.

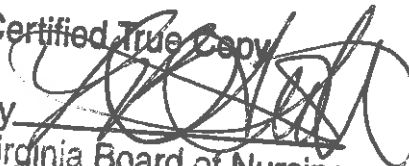
FOR THE COMMITTEE:



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

ENTERED: March 2, 2015

This Order shall become final on April 3, 2015, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing