

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:**

**VALENCIA BELLE, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT**

**License No.: 0001-203122**

**Suspended: February 11, 2009**

**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 2, 2015 in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Valencia Belle’s application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia and to inquire into allegations that grounds may exist to deny said application. Ms. Belle was present and was represented by Colleen Quinn, Esquire.

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Valencia Belle was issued License No. 0001-203122 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on August 9, 2006. Said license was suspended by Order of the Board entered on February 11, 2009. Ms. Belle’s primary state of residence is Alabama.
2. By letter dated December 29, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Belle notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 2, 2015. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2040 Laurel Oak Court, Mobile, Alabama, 36695, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice was also sent to Colleen M. Quinn, counsel for the respondent.

3. Ms. Belle submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing which was received by the Board on April 1, 2014.

4. On May 27, 2008, Ms. Belle was convicted of one count of misdemeanor bad check, a crime of moral turpitude, in the General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division, Durham County, North Carolina. Ms. Belle was sentenced to 6 months in jail with 6 months suspended, and ordered to pay a \$50.00 fine. Additionally, Ms. Belle was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$16,860.12. At the informal conference, Ms. Belle provided a letter addressed to an Assistant District Attorney for Durham County, North Carolina, requesting the misdemeanor conviction be removed from her criminal record. Ms. Belle claimed that all money was repaid in full and that the conviction was a misunderstanding involving misapplied scholarship funds that were deposited into the wrong bank account.

5. By Board Order entered on April 21, 2011 (“Mississippi Board Order”), the Mississippi Board of Nursing revoked Ms. Belle’s license and privilege to practice professional nursing.

6. By Mississippi Board Order, Ms. Belle was found to have falsely answered “no” to the question asking “have you ever been disciplined by or pled no contest to charges filed by any Nursing Board or national certification organization?” on her application for licensure dated March 12, 2009. The Virginia Board of Nursing had suspended her license on February 11, 2009. At the informal conference, Ms. Belle indicated she was not aware that her Virginia license was suspended. Ms. Belle cited a letter received on March 6, 2009 indicating that Case No. 119094 was closed undetermined; however, Case No. 119094 was not related to the license suspension.

7. By Mississippi Board Order, Ms. Belle was found to have applied for licensure in Alabama in January 2008; however, Ms. Belle failed to disclose that she was under investigation with the Virginia Board of Nursing at the time of her application. At the informal conference Ms. Belle indicated that she did not

believe she was under investigation with the Virginia Board of Nursing. She indicated that she withdrew her application for licensure in Alabama when an investigator from Alabama notified her of the discrepancy.

8. By Mississippi Board Order, Ms. Belle was found to have been acting as a “nurse imposter,” practicing as a nurse in the Mobile, Alabama, area in 2010 without a current Alabama license. At the informal conference Ms. Belle indicated that she was a clinical instructor and that she did not provide patient care and did not pass medications. Ms. Belle indicated that she was not aware that she was required to be licensed in Alabama to be a clinical instructor and no one ever asked her if she had an Alabama license.

9. On Ms. Belle’s application for reinstatement received by the Board on April 1, 2014, Ms. Belle indicated she had left employment with Virginia College, Biloxi, Mississippi, for career advancement and relocation. However, Ms. Belle was terminated from Virginia College on June 30, 2011, due to her non-compliance with job requirements and a failure to remedy derogatory information, as required. At the informal conference, Ms. Belle indicated that she was not aware that she had been terminated from Virginia College. Ms. Belle stated that her last day of work was June 29, 2011, and that she had submitted her resignation due to travel difficulties.

10. On Ms. Belle’s application for employment with Virginia College, dated May 21, 2010, Ms. Belle answered “no” to the question asking “have you ever been debarred or otherwise sanctioned by any governmental agency or accrediting agency?” Ms. Belle’s license to practice nursing in Virginia was suspended on February 11, 2009. At the informal conference Ms. Belle indicated she was not aware of the Virginia Board of Nursing action and she did not receive the Alabama Cease and Desist Order because it was sent to a family member’s address.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of 54.1-3007(4) of the Code.
2. Finding of Fact No. 5 constitutes a violation of 54.1-3007(7) of the Code.

3. Findings of Fact Nos. 6, 7 and 9 constitute a violation of 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.
4. Finding of Fact No. 8 constitutes a violation of 54.1-3007(2) and (5) and 54.1-3008(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1) of the Regulations.
5. Finding of Fact No. 10 constitutes a violation of 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations.
6. The Committee concludes that Ms. Belle otherwise meets the requirements of § 54.1-3017 of the Code.
7. The Committee concludes that Ms. Belle has demonstrated satisfactory evidence that she is prepared to resume professional nursing practice in a safe and competent manner.

### ORDER

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


1. The license of Valencia Belle to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby REINSTATED. Ms. Belle shall be issued a license marked “Valid in Virginia only.”
2. Ms. Belle 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 Board of Nursing Regulations.

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. Belle 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