VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

VALENCIA A. BELLE, R.N.

<u>ORDER</u>

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 January 30, 2009, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Valencia A Belle, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing in Virginia. The case was presented by LaRhonda J. Carter, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Howard M. Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Belle was not 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. Valencia A. Belle was issued License No. 0001-203122 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on August 9, 2006. Said license is set is set to expire on November 30, 2009.
- 2. Based upon the representations of LaRhonda J. Carter, Adjudication Specialist, and Commonwealth's Exhibit #1, the Notice of Formal Hearing, and Commonwealth's Exhibit #2, the Affidavit of Mailing, the presiding officer ruled that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Belle and the hearing proceeded in her absence.
- 3. Between May 26, 2005 and September 9, 2005, and between August 22, 2005 and November 17, 2005, during the course of Ms. Belle's full time employment with Instructive Visiting Nurse Association, Richmond, Virginia, which ended September 23, 2005, and full time employment with Professional Healthcare Resources, Richmond, Virginia, which began August 22, 2005, Ms. Belle on numerous occasions

submitted fraudulent timesheets and received pay for hours not actually worked. Ms. Belle was simultaneously enrolled as a full-time nursing student.

4. From July 2005 until June 2006, Ms. Belle submitted curricula vitae to Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, for admission and coursework, along with other documents, and to at least two employers, wherein she listed false information concerning degrees earned and G.P.A.'s obtained as well as false claims as to her involvement in professional programs. Ms. Belle listed one or more Ph.D. degrees which she had not been awarded.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that Findings of Fact Nos. 3 and 4 constitute violations of § 54.1-3007(2), (3) and (5) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

ORDER

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

- 1. License No. 0001-203122 issued to Valencia A. Belle, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
- 2. The license of Valencia A. Belle, R.N., will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Belle 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. Belle shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, a hearing 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. Belle's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

VALENCIA A. BELLE, R.N. Order Page 3 of 4

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, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.

Executive Director

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, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, 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.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed on this day to Valencia A. Belle, R.N., at 2900 Oak Bridge Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27610.

Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.

Executive Director

Virginia Board of Nursing

DATE