

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

KARYN R. PERRY, R.N.

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on May 13, 2009 in Henrico County, Virginia. Karyn R. Perry, R.N., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Jane Elliott, R.N., Ph.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On July 22, 2009, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Perry was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Karyn R. Perry, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-156509 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on October 17, 1997. Said license is set to expire on May 31, 2010.
2. By letter dated April 14, 2009, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Perry notifying her that an informal conference would be held on May 13, 2009. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 4021 Catesby Jones Drive, Hampton, Virginia 23669, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of Ms. Perry's employment at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia ("Norfolk General"), on October 8, 2008, she intentionally made two vertical incisions in her wrist. Ms. Perry self-admitted to Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center for treatment on

that date. Her employment was terminated in January 2009, for violence in the workplace, after 11 years of employment.

4. Ms. Perry was hospitalized once in 2007 and twice in 2008, for mental health-related problems. At the informal conference, Ms. Perry admitted that she had experienced two episodes of self-cutting, both of which occurred while she worked at Norfolk General with the sexual assault program.

5. At the informal conference, Ms. Perry stated that she began mental health counseling and treatment in 2000. She reported that her initial hospitalization was in 2000 for an eating disorder. She stated that her current psychiatrist, whom she has been seeing for two years, gave her a tentative diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder, and that he believed that Ms. Perry's disorder was exacerbated by her work with the sexual assault program at Norfolk General. Ms. Perry reported that she sees her psychiatrist every six weeks.

6. In an interview with an investigator for the Department of Health Professions on October 28, 2008, Ms. Perry's doctor stated that he did not believe she was ready to return to work as a nurse. At the informal conference, Ms. Perry submitted a letter from her psychiatrist, dated April 16, 2009, in which he indicated that Ms. Perry was safe to practice in an emergency room setting, but not in a sexual assault program.

7. Ms. Perry reported that she began employment with Chesapeake General Hospital, Chesapeake, Virginia, in February, 2009. She stated that she has worked in the emergency room with no problems.

8. At the informal conference, Ms. Perry expressed a willingness to enter the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPMP").

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 3 and 4 constitute violations of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. The Board shall TAKE NO ACTION contingent on the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Karyn R. Perry, R.N., shall enter into a Recovery Monitoring Contract with HPMP within 60 days of the entry of this Order.
  - b. Thereafter, Ms. Perry shall comply with 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 Karyn R. Perry, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Perry shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:
  - a. She 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. Perry involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or
  - c. Ms. Perry has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Perry's participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Perry's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.
3. This Order is applicable to Ms. Perry's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Perry shall

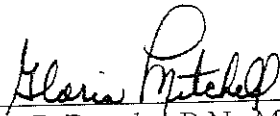
not work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where she wishes to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

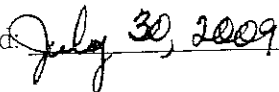
4. Ms. Perry shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

This Order is subject to appeal to the Board. If Ms. Perry desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020 and 2.2-4021 of the Code, she must notify Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233, in writing, within thirty-three (33) days from the date of service of this Order. Upon the filing of a request for the hearing with the Executive Director, this Order shall be vacated.

Pursuant to § 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 a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD

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

Entered 

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed this day to Karyn R. Perry, R.N., at 4021 Catesby Jones Drive, Hampton, Virginia 23669.

*Elaine Mitchell*  
for Jay P. Douglas, (R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.)  
Executive Director  
Board of Nursing

*July 30, 2009*  
DATE

**Certified True Copy**  
By *dgraham*  
**Virginia Board of Nursing**