BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

PATRICIA A. WOLFF, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT

LICENSE NO.: 0001-204586

ORDER

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 July 21, 2011, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Patricia A. Wolff's application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia, which was mandatorily suspended by the Board on March 17, 2011, and to inquire into evidence that Ms. Wolff may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Howard M. Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Wolff was present and was represented by Jerry Canaan, Esquire. 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. Patricia A. Wolff, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-204586 to practice professional nursing on November 13, 2006. Said license was mandatorily suspended by the Board on March 17, 2011. Ms. Wolff's primary state of residence is Indiana.
- 2. Ms. Wolff submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to the Board on April 12, 2011.
- 3. On February 11, 2011, the North Carolina Board of Nursing revoked Ms. Wolff's multistate privilege to practice professional nursing in connection with Ms. Wolff's pattern of discrepancies in the withdrawal and administration of narcotic medication and administration of morphine to a patient without a

physician's order, which occurred during the course of her employment with University Health Systems, Roanoke-Chowan Hospital, Ahoskie, North Carolina.

- 4. During the course of her employment with Roanoke-Chowan Hospital, Ahoskie, North Carolina, by her own admission, during the period of March through June 2010, Ms. Wolff failed to document on the medication administration report ("MAR") the administration of medications in four cases but stated that she either documented the administration on the flow sheets, nursing notes or that the medical record did not correspond to the MAR.
- 5. Ms. Wolff resigned her position from the hospital before the hospital's investigation into Ms. Wolff's narcotic activity was completed. Ms. Wolff testified that she has practiced nursing for approximately twenty years without any patient care issues.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(5) of the Code.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, by affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of the Board at the hearing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

- 1. License No. 0001-204586, issued to Patricia A. Wolff, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, shall be REINSTATED, upon Ms. Wolff's providing to the Board proof of completion of the following NCSBN course: *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses*.
- 2. Ms. Wolff 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.

Patricia A. Wolff, R.N. Reinstatement Applicant Order Page 3 of 4

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, Henrico, 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.