

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:       SANDRA E. JONES, L.P.N.**  
**License No.: 0002-040718**

**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 December 9, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Sandra E. Jones, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing practical nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Jones was present and was not represented by counsel.

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Sandra Elaine Jones, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-040718 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on November 23, 1998. Said license expires on December 31, 2015. Ms. Jones’ primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated November 7, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Jones notifying her that an informal conference would be held on December 9, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 718 Forbes Drive, Norfolk, Virginia, 23504, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. In December 2013, Resident A, a resident at Envoy of Thornton Hall, where Ms. Jones was employed as the MDS coordinator, was discharged from the facility to his own home. Ms. Jones and a group of other Envoy nurses began providing private-duty care to Resident A in his home following his discharge from Envoy. Ms. Jones arranged for the resident to pay her for this care. However, facility documentation

indicated that Genesis Home Health had been contracted to provide home health and 24-hour PCA services to Resident A in his home.

4. In February 2014, Ms. Jones obtained power of attorney over Resident A's finances via his signature. Resident A was diagnosed with dementia months prior to his signing the power of attorney document. There is no evidence that any third party acted on Resident A's behalf in the transfer of power of attorney.

5. Ms. Jones moved Resident A into her private residence in February 2014. Using the power of attorney, she paid herself from Resident A's accounts for rent and for other caregivers to come to her home and provide care to Resident A. In January and February 2014, Ms. Jones cashed checks made out to "cash" from Resident A's account for several thousand dollars. She also cashed checks made out to her written from Resident A's account for more than three thousand dollars. Ms. Jones stated at the informal conference that this was the manner in which she was compensated for the services provided to Resident A.

6. Only after prompting from the Committee did Ms. Jones acknowledge that she had committed a professional boundary violation in taking Resident A into her home and controlling his finances.

7. An Adult Protective Services investigation into this matter was founded for exploitation, but no criminal charges were filed.

8. Ms. Jones was suspended from Envoy of Thornton Hall for several days for solicitation of employment to provide care for residents.

9. Ms. Jones acknowledged providing private-duty care to another former resident on a previous occasion at the request of that resident's family.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Findings of Fact Nos. 4 and 5 constitute violations of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) and (l) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

**ORDER**

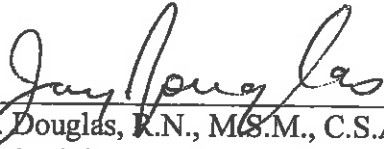
On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Sandra E. Jones, L.P.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Jones shall pay a MONETARY PENALTY of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) to the Board within 90 days of the date this Order is entered.
3. Ms. Jones shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed the following NCSBN online courses within 60 days of the date this Order is entered: *Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know; Ethics of Nursing Practice; Professional Boundaries in Nursing; and Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses.*
4. Ms. Jones shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a practical nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.
5. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or of any law or regulation affecting the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of Ms. Jones and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked.

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. Jones may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on February 8, 2015, notify Jay P. Douglas, 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, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.  
Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: January 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2015

This Order shall become final on February 8, 2015, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board of Nursing