

VIRGINIA:

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:           SELENIA MEADE, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT**  
**License No.: 0001-201921**

**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 November 20, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon Selenia Meade's application for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia, which expired on October 31, 2007, and to inquire into evidence that Ms. Meade may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Amanda E. M. Blount, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Meade was present and was represented by Hunter W. Jamerson, 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. Selenia Meade was issued License No. 0001-201921 to practice as a professional nurse in the Commonwealth of Virginia on July 6, 2006. Said license expired on October 31, 2007, due to non-renewal. Ms. Meade previously held a license to practice as a professional nurse in West Virginia, which expired on October 31, 2008. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Ms. Meade submitted an application for reinstatement of her license to practice as a professional nurse, which was received by the Board on October 11, 2013.
3. Ms. Meade has admitted mental health and substance abuse issues, including mood disorder,

opiate dependency, and marijuana and cocaine use.

4. On her initial Application for Licensure by Examination – Registered Nurse, dated March 6, 2006, Ms. Meade responded “no” to the question “do you have a mental, physical or chemical dependency condition which could interfere with your current ability to practice nursing?” when, in fact, she suffers from a history of mental health and substance abuse issues as referenced in Finding of Fact No. 3.

5. Ms. Meade testified that she allowed her professional nursing licenses in Virginia and West Virginia to lapse because she decided to stay home with her children. She testified that she used cocaine and marijuana for recreational purposes from 1991 to 1994. She testified that she used them to cope with family issues.

6. Ms. Meade testified that in 2003, she started abusing narcotics that were prescribed for her back pain. She stated that she took more medication than was prescribed and then suffered the withdrawal symptoms until she received a new prescription. She entered methadone outpatient treatment in September 2004, and completed treatment in December 2004. She was methadone free at the end of 2004. In 2008, her back pain reoccurred and she had surgery. After surgery, she was prescribed pain medication.

7. Ms. Meade was also diagnosed with postpartum depression and generalized anxiety disorder after her surgery. She started using more pain medication than was prescribed to her. She testified that when she ran out of medications, she would suffer withdrawal symptoms until she received another prescription. She attended outpatient treatment from 2009 to 2011. She attended Narcotics Anonymous during that time, but felt uncomfortable at the meetings. She has been seeing a counselor since 2009, whom she sees about once a month. She currently takes methadone for pain. Ms. Meade submitted records from her counselor dated October 16, 2014, in which the counselor recommended that she return in two weeks, but she failed to do so. Ms. Meade submitted an assessment by her counselor that diagnosed her with opioid dependence and mood disorder NOS. The counselor recommended outpatient treatment.

8. Ms. Meade signed a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program

("HPMP") on July 28, 2014. She stopped participating with the HPMP prior to the formal hearing. On October 13, 2014, HPMP notified her that she was in non-compliance, and that she failed to complete the recommended substance abuse and mental health assessment. She testified that she did not have a support system. She reported a sobriety date of November 11, 2009.

9. Ms. Meade has not practiced professional nursing since February 2008. She has completed 25.5 continuing education units for her reinstatement.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that:

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(1) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) 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. Selenia Meade is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. The license of Selenia Meade to practice professional nursing is hereby REINSTATED contingent upon proof that Ms. Meade has re-entered the HPMP pursuant to Chapter 25.1 of Title 54.1 of the Code and 18 VAC 76-10-10 *et seq.* of the Regulations Governing the HPMP. Upon issuance of a license to practice as a professional nurse, which shall be valid in Virginia only, Ms. Meade shall comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.
3. This order shall be applicable to Ms. Meade's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Meade shall not work outside 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 request for out of state

employment shall be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

4. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Selenia Meade and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Meade shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:

a. Ms. Meade is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;

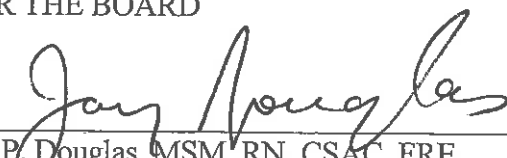
b. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Meade involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or

c. Ms. Meade has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Meade's participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Meade's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

5. Ms. Meade 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 Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

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, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Nursing

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ENTERED

**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, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, 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.