

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: MEGAN DELLINGER, R.N.
License No.: 0001-238057

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(7)/(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on August 20, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia. Megan Dellinger, R.N., was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel. Jodi P. Power, R.N., J.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On November 19, 2014, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Dellinger 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. Megan Dellinger, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-238057 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on June 20, 2012. The license is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2016. Ms. Dellinger's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated July 28, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Dellinger notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 20, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 225 Pine Street, Winchester, Virginia, 22601, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The receipt for the Notice sent via certified mail was

signed by Ms. Dellinger and returned to the Board office on August 18, 2014. The Notice sent via first class mail was not returned to the Board office. The Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Dellinger and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

3. During the course of her employment with Winchester Medical Center, Valley Health, Winchester, Virginia, by her own admission, on December 5, 2013, Ms. Dellinger left a wheelchair bound-resident who was a high risk for skin breakdown sitting upright for more than 12 hours during her 7:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m. shift.

4. At 8:00 p.m., the resident was observed by the oncoming shift to have deep red marks on her sacrum and upper thighs. She was diagnosed with a deep tissue injury and pressure sore by the wound care nurse on the following day, requiring additional medical intervention.

5. Ms. Dellinger's employment was terminated on December 13, 2013 as a result of this incident. Ms. Dellinger expressed no remorse when the facility management confronted her about the incident. Ms. Dellinger had received prior counseling in 2013 for not following physicians' orders related to nasogastric tube care and suctioning, for failing to intervene on a leaking IV, and for administering Coumadin outside doctor's orders for INR levels.

6. Ms. Dellinger's previous experience included work as an emergency medical technician in the transport division before she transitioned to work as a professional nurse.

7. Ms. Dellinger failed to respond to the Department of Health Professions' investigator's attempts to contact her. No current nursing employment information was available.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

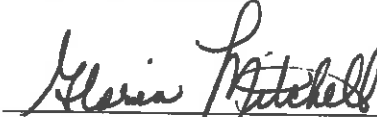
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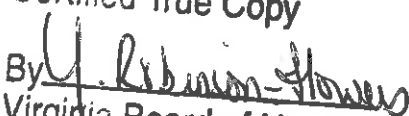
WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Megan Dellinger, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Dellinger shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed following NCSBN online courses within 60 days of the entry of this Order: *Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses* and *Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills for Competent Nursing Practice*.
3. Ms. Dellinger 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.

Since Ms. Dellinger failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Dellinger has the right to appeal this Order directly to the appropriate Virginia circuit court. As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Ms. Dellinger has thirty (30) days from the date of service (the date she actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to her, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, at Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, Virginia 23233. In the event that this decision is served by mail, three (3) days are added to that period.

FOR THE BOARD


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

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing

Entered: December 4, 2014