

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

**SASHA DOTSON, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-086530**

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 February 11, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Sasha Dotson, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing practical nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Dotson was present and was represented by J. Brent Fleming, Esquire.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Sasha Dotson, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-086530 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on February 8, 2012. Said license expires on February 28, 2014. Ms. Dotson’s primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated January 15, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Dotson notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 11, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to P.O. Box 2243, Wise, Virginia, 24293, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. During the course of her employment with Coeburn Hospital Clinic, Coeburn, Virginia, in September 2012, Ms. Dotson wrote and obtained prescriptions for Lortab (hydrocodone - Schedule III), for herself and her boyfriend without authorization and without prescriptive authority.

4. On the advice of her attorney, and due to the pendency of criminal charges, Ms. Dotson elected not to respond to the allegation that she had written and obtained unauthorized prescriptions for herself and her boyfriend.

5. Ms. Dotson's employment with the Coeburn Hospital Clinic was terminated on October 3, 2012, as a result of the incident referenced in Finding of Fact No. 3.

6. During the course of her employment with The Laurels, Norton, Virginia, Ms. Dotson left the facility while on duty on multiple occasions without authorization, without permission, and when she was the only nurse on duty in the facility. She admitted at the informal conference to leaving the facility for long periods of time on multiple occasions to socialize with a friend in the parking lot. She admitted that she used poor judgment in leaving the facility and socializing with a friend during work hours.

7. Ms. Dotson's employment with The Laurels was terminated on July 12, 2012.

8. Ms. Dotson admitted at the informal conference that she is addicted to hydrocodone (Schedule III), which she began taking as a result of a back injury several years ago. She stated that she has not received any treatment for her substance abuse problem.

9. Ms. Dotson was forthcoming at the informal conference about her addiction, acknowledged that she needs help and stated that she intends to enroll in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program. She stated that she last took hydrocodone two days before the informal conference to help her sleep.

10. Ms. Dotson stated at the informal conference that her physician dismissed her as patient as a result of the events referenced in Finding of Fact No. 3, and that she no longer has a prescription for hydrocodone. She also stated at the informal conference that she has not abused alcohol or any other substances.

11. Ms. Dotson is currently employed as a private duty nurse and stated that she does not administer medication.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(a) and (c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing (“Regulations”).
2. Finding of Fact No. 6 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations.
3. Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Committee concludes that Ms. Dotson is a candidate for the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program (“HPMP”).

ORDER

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

1. The Committee shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time, contingent upon Sasha Dotson’s compliance with the following terms and conditions:
 - a. Ms. Dotson shall enter into the Health Practitioners’ Monitoring Program (“HPMP”), pursuant to § 54.1-2515 *et seq.* of the Code and 18 VAC 76-10-10 *et seq.* of the Regulations Governing the HPMP, and shall have proof of entry into a Contract with the HPMP provided to the Board within 30 days of the date this Order is entered.
2. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Dotson’s multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice practical nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Dotson 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 Ms. Dotson wishes to work. Any request for out of state employment shall be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.
3. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Ms. Dotson, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Dotson shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:
 - a. Ms. Dotson has failed to make application to the HPMP;

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

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


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

4. Ms. Dotson 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.

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. Dotson may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on April 10, 2013, 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:


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

ENTERED: March 8, 2013

This Order shall become final on April 10, 2013 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing