

0024-166866

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING AND MEDICINE

IN RE: AMEANTHEA BLANCO, L.N.P.
License No.: 0024-166866
Authorization to Prescribe: 0017-138520

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 quorum of the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine ("Committee of the Joint Boards") on September 17, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Ameanthea Blanco, L.N.P., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nurse practitioner practice in Virginia. The case was presented by David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Erin L. Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Blanco was present and was represented by Dante Filetti, Esquire. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Committee of the Joint Boards adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ameanthea Blanco, L.N.P., was issued License No. 0024-166866 to practice as a nurse practitioner and Authorization to Prescribe No. 0017-138520 on March 6, 2006. The L.N.P. license and the Authorization to Prescribe are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2016. Ms. Blanco was issued License No. 0001-178819 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on June 24, 2002. The license is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2016. Ms. Blanco's primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By her own admission, Ms. Blanco entered into personal and sexual relationships with a patient (Patient A) and a former patient (Patient B). The Committee was presented inconsistent testimony and evidence regarding when Ms. Blanco first treated Patient A. The investigator's report, which was created

in part from representations made by Ms. Blanco, provided evidence that Ms. Blanco first treated Patient A in September 2010. During their personal relationship, which, by her own admission to the investigator, lasted from May 2011 through December 2011, she prescribed medication to him in November 2011. Ms. Blanco testified before the Committee that she did not see Patient A as a patient until spring of 2011. She testified to the Committee that the two instances that she prescribed medication to Patient A when she was romantically involved with him were when he was "in pain."

3. She became romantically involved with Patient B in early 2012, after she began treating him in November 2011. Ms. Blanco testified that she provided prescriptions to Patient B to cover the period after her practice closed in January 2012. Ms. Blanco testified that Patient B is now her husband.

4. Ms. Blanco and another licensed nurse practitioner (Patient C) prescribed phentermine (Schedule II) to each other without a bona fide practitioner-patient relationship. Between November 2010 and October 2012, Ms. Blanco wrote 14 prescriptions for phentermine for this practitioner. Between November 2010 and April 2012, Ms. Blanco filled nine prescriptions for phentermine, which were written by this same practitioner. Ms. Blanco testified that she remains a patient of Patient C. Ms. Blanco further testified that she continues to treat Patient C as a practitioner.

5. Ms. Blanco called in and filled four prescriptions for phentermine for herself between June 30, 2011, and November 21, 2011. Ms. Blanco testified that she did not call in the prescription for herself.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that:

1. Findings of Fact No. 2 and 3 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-30-220(4) of the Regulations Governing the Licensure of Nurse Practitioners ("L.N.P. Regulations").

2. Findings of Fact Nos. 4 and 5 constitute violations of § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-30-220(4) of the L.N.P. Regulations.

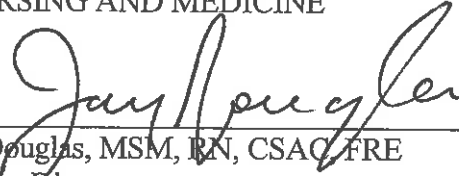
ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Ameanthea Blanco, L.N.P., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Blanco shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed 12 hours of live, in-person continuing education courses in the subject of ethics approved by the Committee of the Joint Boards within 12 months of the entry of this Order.
3. Ms. Blanco shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a nurse practitioner commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.
4. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or of any law or regulation affecting the practice of a nurse practitioner in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license and/or Authorization to Prescribe of Ameanthea Blanco, L.N.P., and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license and/or Authorization to Prescribe 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.

FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT BOARDS
OF NURSING AND MEDICINE



Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

October 24th, 2014

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.