

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Sandra Whitley Ryals Director Department of Health Professions 6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor Richmond, Virginia 23230-1712 www.dhp.virginia.gov TEL (804) 662 9900 FAX (804) 662 9943 TDD (804) 662 7197 Board of Nursing (804) 662-9909 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 662-7310 FAX (804) 662-9512

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

November 14, 2006

Myra Feldman, R.N. 5632 Parkland Court Virginia Beach, Virginia 23464 <u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 71603901984942381223

Re:

VA License No.: 0001-086745

Expiration Date: January 31, 2008

Dear Ms. Feldman:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), on December 12, 2006, at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, Fifth Floor, Richmond, Virginia. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically:

You may be in violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be mentally incapacitated or unable to practice with reasonable skill or safety due to a mental health diagnosis that requires medication, a requirement with which you have been non-compliant. Further, it is the opinion of your treatment provider that you are unsafe to practice nursing at this time. Your employment with DePaul Medical Center, Norfolk, Virginia, was terminated relative to this matter on or about August 4, 2006.

In its deliberations, the Committee may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 662-9909.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in Virginia. A brochure about the HPIP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPIP prior to your informal conference, the Committee will take that into consideration when deciding your case.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- If the Committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the Committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate;
 - The Committee may reprimand you;
 - The Committee may impose a monetary penalty.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Committee is of the opinion that suspension or revocation may be justified, the Committee may offer you a Consent Order for suspension or revocation in lieu of a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 662-9950, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Board of Nursing, 6603 West Broad Street, Fifth Floor, Richmond, VA 23230-1717, by December 7, 2006. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.

Also enclosed are copies of the relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which governs proceedings of this nature, as well as the relevant laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in Virginia.

Myra Feldman, R.N. Page 3

In the event of inclement weather, please be advised that Board of Nursing hearings will be held unless state offices are closed. Please listen to television or radio announcements to provide information about official state closings or delays. If there is a delayed opening, hearings will begin at the time of the agency opening. A recorded announcement pertaining to closings or delays will also be available by calling the main telephone number for the Department of Health Professions at (804) 662-9900. Illoria D. Apitchell

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A. Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

GDM/bl Enclosures

Sandra Whitley Ryals, Director, Department of Health Professions Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division cc: Special Conference Committee Members Rachel E. Welch, Adjudication Specialist Debbie Wintermantel, R.N., Senior Investigator (Case no. 107602) Peggy Wood, HPIP Coordinator



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December 20, 2006

Myra Feldman, R.N. 5632 Parkland Court Virginia Beach, Virginia 23464 CERTIFIED MAIL 71603901984942380912

Dear Ms. Feldman:

Enclosed is a copy true copy of the Order entered by the Virginia Board of Nursing deferring a disposition in this matter and further ordering that you submit to a mental health and chemical dependency evaluation, within ninety (90) days of this order becoming final, by a health care provider that is acceptable to the Board.

Someone from the Compliance Unit will be contacting you regarding your Order.

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A. Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

Enclosure

cc:

Sandra Whitley Ryals, Director, Department of Health Professions Ann G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Rachel Welch, Adjudication Specialist

Debbie wintermantel, R.N., Senior Investigator (Case no. 107602)

Peggy Wood, HPIP Coordinator Ann L. Tiller, Compliance Manager