

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Dianne L. Reynolds-Cane, M.D. Director

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 367-4569 FAX (804) 527-4455

NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

March 1, 2012

Christine Gaither, R.N. Reinstatement Applicant 5061 Gatehouse Way Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 7196 9008 9111 0159 7743

Re:

VA License No.:

0001-171042

Suspension Date:

August 6, 2009

Dear Ms. Gaither:

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 April 3, 2012, at 10:30 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. 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 receive and act upon your application for the reinstatement of your license to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which was suspended by an Order of the Board entered August 6, 2009, and will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically:

- 1. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unable to safely practice professional nursing due to substance abuse, which you acknowledged on your application for reinstatement of your license, dated December 12, 2011, and in signing a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program on January 17, 2012.
- 2. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(4) of the Code in that on or about April 18, 2011, in the Circuit Court for the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, you were convicted of one count of misdemeanor prescription fraud.

The burden of providing evidence satisfactory to the Board that you are prepared to resume the safe and competent practice of professional nursing rests with you.

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

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- The Committee may reinstate your license and place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate, reprimand you, or impose a monetary penalty; or
 - The Committee may deny your application for reinstatement of your license.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for 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) 367-4515, 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 Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by March 27, 2012. 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.

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice, can be found on the Internet at http://legl.state.va.us. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

_Sincerely,

Brenda Krohn, R.N., M.S. Deputy Executive Director

BK/lba

Enclosures

Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
 Special Conference Committee Members
 Vicky Fox, Senior Investigator (Case no. 142262)
 Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager