VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

TARA S. ALLISON, R.N.

License No.: 0001-240978

**NOTICE OF HEARING** 

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended

("Code"), Tara S. Allison, R.N, who holds License No. 0001-240978 to practice professional nursing which

is set to expire on October 31, 2014, is hereby given notice that a formal administrative hearing will be held

in the presence of a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board"). The hearing will be held on August 18, 2014,

at 11:00 a.m., at the offices of the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center,

9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233, at which time Ms. Allison will be afforded the

opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel.

At the hearing, Ms. Allison has the following rights, among others: the right to representation by

counsel; the right to have witnesses subpoenaed and to present witnesses on her behalf; the right to present

documentary evidence; and the right to cross-examine adverse witnesses. If she desires any witnesses to

appear on her behalf, she must notify the Director of Administrative Proceedings, Department of Health

Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in accordance with the Instructions

for Requesting Subpoenas.

The purpose of the hearing is to inquire into evidence that Tara S. Allison may have violated certain

laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice as more fully set forth in the Statement of

Particulars below.

## STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS

The Board alleges that:

- 1. Tara S. Allison, R.N., may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations") in that during the course of her employment with Sentara Norfolk General Hospital ("SNGH"), Norfolk, Virginia, between September and December 2013, by her own admission, she diverted narcotic medications from patient supplies for her own personal and unauthorized use, which use occurred both on and off duty.
- 2. Ms. Allison may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that she may be unable to safely practice professional nursing due to her history of substance abuse and mental illness.
- 3. Ms. Allison may have violated § 54.1-3007(1) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations in that she falsified her initial application for licensure to practice professional nursing, dated September 14, 2012, as follows:
- a. Ms. Allison answered "no" to the question of whether she had ever been convicted, pled guilty to, or pled *Nolo Contendere* to the violation of any federal, state or other statute or ordinance constituting a felony or misdemeanor, including convictions for driving under the influence, when, in fact, she had been convicted of the following offenses:
- i. On or about July 25, 2003, in the General District Court of Portsmouth, Virginia, she was convicted of knowingly giving a false report regarding the commission of a crime to a law enforcement official.
- ii. On or about May 9, 2006, in the General District Court of Chesapeake, Virginia, she was convicted of driving under the influence.
- iii. On or about July 7, 2006, in the General District Court of Portsmouth, Virginia, she was convicted of driving under the influence.

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b. Ms. Allison answered "no" to the question of whether she had a mental, physical, or chemical dependency condition which could interfere with her current ability to practice professional nursing when, in fact, she has a history of substance abuse and mental illness, as evidenced by her own admission to an investigator for the Department of Health Professions and by her convictions for driving under the influence.

FOR THE BOARD

Jay P/Douglas, M&M, RN/CSAC, FRE

Executive Director for the

Board of Nursing

ENTERED: