VIRGINIA:

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

ANDREA HARRIS, R.N. License No.: 0001-201294

#### <u>ORDER</u>

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 August 1, 2012, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Andrea Harris, R.N., may have violated certain laws governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Harris was present and was not represented by counsel. Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Andrea Harris, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-201294 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 16, 2006. Said license expires on January 31, 2013. Ms. Harris' primary state of residence is Virginia.
- 2. By letter dated July 10, 2012, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Harris notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 1, 2012. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 4917 Sunny Side Drive, SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24018, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
- 3. On January 10, 2011, October 15, 2011, and April 18, 2012, Ms. Harris was admitted to Carilion Clinic Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke, Virginia, for drug overdoses. On January 10, 2011, Ms. Harris was admitted for suicidal deliberate poisoning. On October 15, 2011, Ms. Harris was admitted after ingesting 20 Xanax (C-IV) and drinking three bottles of beer. On April 18, 2012, Ms. Harris admitted

ingesting eight Prozac (C-VI) and having a witnessed seizure. Further, Ms. Harris is currently receiving treatment for major depression.

- 4. Ms. Harris provided evidence that she completed an inpatient rehabilitation program with Phoenix Recovery Center, Edgewood, Maryland. Ms. Harris was admitted April 24, 2012 and discharged May 19, 2012. Ms. Harris' date of sobriety is April 16, 2012.
- 5. On July 23, 2012, Ms. Harris entered into a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP").
- 6. Ms. Harris stated that she received substance abuse treatment in 2001, and maintained sobriety for ten years prior to her relapse. She attends Alcoholics Anonymous meetings two to three times a week, and is working on obtaining a sponsor. Ms. Harris states that she feels very confident in her recovery.
  - 8. Ms. Harris' previous employment evaluations were always positive.
- 9. Ms. Harris was employed with Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Care prior to her entry into the HPMP. At present the HPMP has not approved Ms. Harris to return to work; therefore, she has resigned her position with Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Care. Ms. Harris stated that she is eligible for re-hire.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

### <u>ORDER</u>

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

- 1. The Committee shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time, contingent upon Andrea Harris' compliance with the following terms and conditions:
- a. Ms. Harris shall continue to comply with all terms and conditions of the Recovery Monitoring Contract ("Contract") with the HPMP for the period specified in the Contract.

- 2. This order shall be applicable to Ms. Harris' multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Harris 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. Harris 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. Harris, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Harris shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:
- a. Ms. Harris is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;
- b. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Harris involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or
- c. Ms. Harris has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Harris' participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Harris' appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.
- 4. Ms. Harris shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional 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.

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Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Harris may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on October 1, 2012, 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:

Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.

Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: august 28,2012

This Order shall become final on October 1, 2012 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

Virginia Board of Nursing