

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: KAREN WASILEWSKI, R.N.
 License No.: 0001-130155**

CONSENT ORDER

By letter dated September 2, 2014, the Board noticed Karen Wasilewski, R.N., for a formal hearing. In lieu of proceeding to a formal hearing, the Board and Ms. Wasilewski, as evidenced by their signatures affixed below, agree to enter into this Consent Order affecting the license of Ms. Wasilewski to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

The Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Karen Wasilewski, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-130155 to practice professional nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on August 28, 1992. Said license was summarily suspended by the Board on September 2, 2014. Ms. Wasilewski's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. On or about February 22, 2014, during the course of her employment in the Emergency Department at Welch Community Hospital, Welch, West Virginia, Ms. Wasilewski arrived late for her shift without notice. Ms. Wasilewski was observed having difficulty walking and slurred speech. She was further noted to have dilated pupils and a faint odor of alcohol. Ms. Wasilewski was taken for drug testing, which resulted in a dilute screen after Ms. Wasilewski was observed to have consumed liquid and had gone to the restroom after being instructed to wait. Attempts to perform breath testing on her were unsuccessful; however, a saliva strip test performed approximately six hours after Ms. Wasilewski began her shift was documented to have registered over .02 percent blood alcohol content.

3. On or about April 16, 2014, during the course of her employment with DaVita Dialysis, working as a contract nurse providing dialysis at Carilion New River Valley, Christiansburg, Virginia, Ms. Wasilewski was observed with her head bobbing and eyes blinking, being unsteady on her feet and fumbling with the key pad lock in the dialysis room. The dialysis machine was alarming, but she failed to attend to the machine. Ms. Wasilewski did not remember receiving report, and seemed unclear of the process for administering blood during the dialysis treatment. Ms. Wasilewski was taken for drug testing, which was positive for hydrocodone (C-III) and opiates.

4. On April 10, 2014, Ms. Wasilewski was arrested for driving under the influence in Pulaski County, Virginia, for an offense that occurred on or about January 2, 2014.

5. On June 25, 2014, Ms. Wasilewski pled guilty to felony possession of a controlled substance in the Tazewell County, Virginia, Circuit Court. The matter was taken under advisement for one year, and she was placed on supervised probation.

6. On June 30, 2014, Ms. Wasilewski's physician wrote a letter to the Board indicating that Ms. Wasilewski is impaired. The physician wrote that Ms. Wasilewski suffers from mental illness and substance dependence and is not appropriate for employment as a health care provider at this time. Further, on April 16, 2014, her physician diagnosed her with major depressive disorder, opiate dependence and alcohol abuse. He documented that Ms. Wasilewski last used intravenous drugs in January 2014.

7. Ms. Wasilewski failed to disclose to her orthopedic physician that she has a history of substance abuse, including an addiction to the narcotic pain medication, Percocet (C-II). Ms. Wasilewski received multiple prescriptions for Lortab (oxycodone, C-II) from her orthopedic physician, and admitted that she takes the Lortab while on duty.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Findings of Fact Nos. 2 through 6 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”).

CONSENT

Karen Wasilewski, R.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. She has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. She acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;
3. She acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to a formal fact finding hearing before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;
4. She waives all such right to a formal hearing;
5. She admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;
6. She consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS as follows:

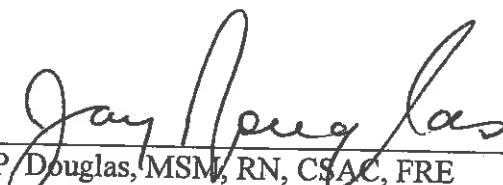
1. License No. 0001-130155 of Karen Wasilewski, R.N., is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.

3. At such time as Ms. Wasilewski shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of professional nursing. Ms. Wasilewski shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

4. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice professional nursing.

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 upon request.

FOR THE BOARD



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

ENTERED: October 1, 2014

DHP SEP 16 2014

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

K. Wasilewski
Karen Wasilewski, R.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF Tazewell, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Lisa D Alley, a Notary Public, this 11 day of September, 2014.

My commission expires 11-30-14

Registration Number 7319903

Lisa D Alley
NOTARY PUBLIC



Certified True Copy

By dgraham
Virginia Board Of Nursing