

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Robert A. Nebiker 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

Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC Executive Director Board of Nursing (804) 662-9909 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 662-7310 FAX (804) 662-9512

September 27, 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL 71603901984887269051

Pamela L. Tombs, R.N. 639 Crozet Avenue Crozet, Virginia 22932

Re:

License No.: 0001-095881

Expiration Date: February 29, 2008

Dear Ms. Tombs:

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 October 16, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. in the offices of the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, Fifth Floor, Richmond, Virginia. You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of two or three members of the Virginia Board of Nursing, 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(2), (5) and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(a), (e) and (f) of the Board of Nursing Regulations in that on or about March 14, 2005, while employed at the Augusta Medical Center, Fishersville, Virginia ("AMC") you hung an IV solution of Dextrose 5% in Lactated Ringers on a diabetic patient instead of the physician-ordered lactated Ringers. Thereafter, Patient A's blood sugar registered 474, which was an unusually high level for this patient. You falsified the MAR for Patient A by recording that you had administered the physician-ordered IV solution when, in fact, you had substituted the IV solution that contained Dextrose. On or about March 29, 2005, you resigned your nursing position in lieu of termination.
- 2. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(a) on three separate occasions, while employed at AMC. Specifically:

- a) On or about February, 2004, while admitting a patient from the University of Virginia Hospital, Charlottesville, Virginia, you wrote orders on the patient based on her hospital records without consulting a physician. As a consequence, you were suspended for three days by your employer.
- b) On or about January, 2003, you stopped administration of a patient's antibiotic when the physician had ordered that the antibiotic be continued. As a consequence, you were verbally counseled by your supervisor.
- c) On or about December, 2003, a physician ordered a pain medication for his patient. You wrote "PRN" on the physician's order. As a consequence, you were verbally counseled by your supervisor.

After the conference, the Committee is authorized to take the following actions:

- 1. 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;
- 2. The Committee may continue your license on probation with such terms as it may deem appropriate;
- 3. The Committee may reprimand you;
- 4. The Committee may impose a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code; or
- 5. 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 a suspension or revocation of your license may be justified, the Committee may offer you a consent order in lieu of a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee will proceed to hear the case in your absence, and may take any of the actions outlined above.

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.

At least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the conference. This can be done by calling our offices at (804) 662-9950 or by sending us a letter at the address listed above.

You have the right to information which will be relied upon by the Board in making a decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents which will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon your case. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, and must be claimed at the post office. Please bring these documents with you.

If you have any additional documents to be presented to the Conference Committee, please bring five (5) copies of each document with you.

Also, enclosed are copies of the relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws and regulations relating to the practice of nursing in Virginia that are cited in this notice.

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A.

Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

GDM/bl

Enclosures

cc: Robert A. Nebiker, Director, Department of Health Professions Anne Joseph, Deputy Director for Administrative Proceedings Committee members Peter Opper, Adjudication Specialist Robin B. Hamilton, R.N., Senior Investigator (Case No.102688)