

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: HEATHER BEST, R.N.
License No.: 0001-209567

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on May 14, 2014 in Henrico County, Virginia. Heather Best, R.N., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Janet Younger, Ph.D., R.N., P.N.P., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On July 16, 2014, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Best was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Heather Best, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-209567 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on October 1, 2007. The license is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2016. Ms. Best also held a license to practice professional nursing in the State of Michigan, which expired in 2008. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated April 11, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Best notifying her that an informal conference would be held on May 14, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 29 Fairwood Place, Palmyra, Virginia 22963, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with University of Virginia Health System,

Charlottesville, Virginia, between March and September 2013, Ms. Best accessed the confidential health records of patients who were not assigned to her and for no legitimate therapeutic reason, and she disclosed information from those records to co-workers. One of the records was for another co-worker who had been admitted to a different unit.

4. Ms. Best's employment with University of Virginia Health System was terminated on October 8, 2013.

5. Ms. Best stated at the informal conference that she was currently employed as a travel nurse and that her new employer was aware of her termination from University of Virginia Health System.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(m) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

ORDER

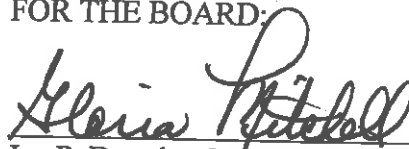
WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Heather Best, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Best shall provide the Board with verification that she has completed the following NCSBN online course within 60 days of the date this Order is entered: *Patient Privacy*.
3. Ms. Best 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.
4. Any violation of the terms and conditions of this Order or of any law or regulation affecting the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of Ms. Best, and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked.

Pursuant to § 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 a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Best may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on September 3, 2014, notify Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., 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 BOARD:


for Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: August 1, 2014

This Order shall become final on September 3, 2014 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing