

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: DARLA S. STEELE, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-063597

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Darla S. Steele, L.P.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Steele's license to practice practical nursing in Virginia.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Darla S. Steele, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-063597 to practice practical nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on May 1, 2002. Said license is set to expire on December 31, 2012. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By Board Order entered March 27, 2012, the Board ordered Ms. Steele to undergo a chemical dependency evaluation. On July 24, 2012, the Board received said evaluation which diagnosed Ms. Steele as opioid dependent. The evaluator recommended that Ms. Steele participate in random laboratory drug testing in order to monitor Ms. Steele's use of prescription drugs.
3. Between March 27, 2012, and July 27, 2012, Ms. Steele filled 5 prescriptions for a total of 600 tablets of oxycodone and acetaminophen (schedule II).
4. On July 3, 2012, Ms. Steele was arrested for prescription fraud, a felony offense. The offense occurred in Chesapeake, Virginia, on June 20, 2011. Ms. Steele has admitted to changing the refill date on a prescription for Percocet (oxycodone, schedule II). The Chesapeake Circuit Court shall make a final disposition of this case on December 18, 2012.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 2, 3, and 4 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”).

CONSENT

Darla S. Steele, L.P.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. Ms. Steele has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. Ms. Steele 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. Ms. Steele acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact-finding conference 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. Ms. Steele waives all such right to an informal conference;
5. Ms. Steele 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 practical 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 that the Board shall TAKE NO ACTION at this time contingent on the following conditions:

1. Ms. Steele shall enter the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") within 45 days of the entry of this Order and shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPMP.
2. Ms. Steele shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a practical nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.
3. 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. Steele and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether such license shall be suspended or revoked. Ms. Steele shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:
 - a. Ms. Steele has failed to make application to the HPMP;
 - b. Ms. Steele is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;
 - c. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Steele involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or
 - d. Ms. Steele has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Steele's participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Steele's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.
4. This Order is applicable to Ms. Steele's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Steele shall not work outside of 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 she wishes to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

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 Douglas
Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.
Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing
ENTERED: December 4th, 2012

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Darla S. Steele
Darla S. Steele, L.P.N.



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

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Susan Harder, a Notary Public, this 20th day of Nov, 2012.

My commission expires 12/31/2013.

Registration Number 7283870.

Susan C Harder
NOTARY PUBLIC