VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

DEBORAH WEEKS, R.N.

License No.: 0001-114157

<u>ORDER</u>

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on November 18, 2015, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Deborah Weeks, R.N., may have violated certain terms and conditions imposed on her, as set forth in the Order of the Board entered on August 6, 2014, and certain laws governing nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Weeks was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Deborah Weeks, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-114157 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on April 28, 1989. By Order of the Board entered on August 6, 2014, Ms. Weeks' license was suspended with the suspension stayed contingent upon terms and conditions. On July 23, 2015, the stay was rescinded and her license was suspended. Ms. Weeks' primary state of residence is Virginia.
- 2. Based upon the representations of Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist, and Commonwealth's Exhibit No.1, the Notice of Formal Hearing and Affidavit of Mailing, the presiding officer ruled that adequate notice was provided to the respondent and the hearing proceeded in her absence.

3. Term 3(a) of the Board's Order entered August 6, 2014, required Ms. Weeks to comply with all terms and conditions of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"). On July 17, 2015, Ms. Weeks was dismissed from the HPMP for noncompliance with her program contract. Specifically, on April 30, 2015, Ms. Weeks submitted a diluted urine drug screen, on May 5, 2015, she had a positive Phosphatidylethanol ("PEth") test, and she stopped calling the testing line on May 18, 2015.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code and Term No. 3(a) of the Board's Order entered August 6, 2014.

## <u>ORDER</u>

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

- 1. Deborah Weeks, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
- 2. The license of Ms. Weeks to practice professional nursing shall be CONTINUED on INDEFINITE SUSPENSION. At such time as Ms. Weeks shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of professional nursing.
- 3. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Weeks' multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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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FOR THE BOARD

Jay P. Donglas, MSM, RN/SAC, FRE

Executive Director

Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED ENTERED 10, 2015

## **NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.

**Certified True Copy** 

Virginia/Board Of Nursing