

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: DEBORAH WEEKS, R.N.
License No.: 0001114157

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 28, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia. Ms. Weeks was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Jane Elliott, RN., Ph.D., 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. Weeks was present and was not 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. Deborah Weeks, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-114157 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on April 28, 1989. The license is scheduled to expire on April 20, 2016. Ms. Weeks' primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated May 1, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Weeks notifying her that an informal conference would be held on May 28, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 704 Webbs Mill Road, Floyd, Virginia 24091, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. On January 14, 2014, she was admitted to Carilion St. Albans Hospital, Christiansburg,

Virginia, after being found stabbing her wrist with an 18 gauge needle. Upon admission, she registered a 0.374 blood alcohol content, and admitted that she was depressed.

4. Ms. Weeks provided evidence that she attends Stepping Stones, an intensive outpatient program, administered through the New River Valley Community Services Board, Blacksburg, Virginia. She attends three 3-hour meetings a week, and plans to participate in the program for one year. Ms. Weeks stated that she has researched Alcoholics Anonymous, but does not attend the meetings.

5. Ms. Weeks stated that she has not totally stopped drinking. She stated that she drank alcohol as recently as May 26, 2014. Ms. Weeks stated that her drink of choice is liquor.

6. Ms. Weeks provided a letter from her counselor at Stepping Stones, who is aware that she continues to drink. The counselor stated that Ms. Weeks continues to struggle with alcohol use, but has made improvement with consuming less alcohol, less frequently.

7. On May 14, 2014, Ms. Weeks entered a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, and is scheduled for orientation on June 2, 2014.

8. Ms. Weeks stated that she is currently employed with Maxim Healthcare and Interim Healthcare. At Maxim Healthcare, she provides care to a 60 year old client. On weekends through Interim she provides respite care to an eight year old child.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Ms. Weeks is properly enrolled in the HPMP.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. License No. 0001-114157 of Deborah Weeks to practice professional nursing is

INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.

2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.

3. The indefinite suspension shall be STAYED and the following terms and conditions shall apply:

a. Ms. Weeks shall continue to comply with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.

b. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for summarily rescinding the stay of indefinite suspension of the license of Ms. Weeks, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to determine whether her license shall be revoked. The stay of indefinite suspension may be summarily rescinded at such time the Board is notified that:

i. Ms. Weeks is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPMP;

ii. Ms. Weeks' participation in the HPMP has been terminated;

iii. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Ms. Weeks involving a violation of law, regulation, or any term or condition of this order.

4. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Weeks' participation and successful completion of the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Weeks' appearance before a Committee and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license.

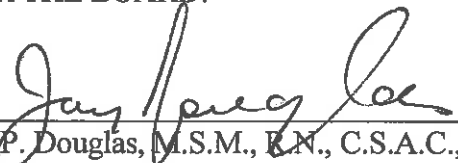
5. Ms. Weeks shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

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. Weeks may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **September 8, 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:



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

ENTERED: August 6th, 2014

This Order shall become final on September 8, 2014, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By U. Robinson-Howers
Virginia Board of Nursing

9-8-14