

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

ROBERT C. WILLIAMS, R.N.

ORDER

Pursuant to § 2.2-4019, § 2.2-4021, § 54.1-2400(10) and § 54.1-3010 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (the "Code"), a Special Conference Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Nursing met on October 29, 2002, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon evidence that Robert C. Williams, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of practical nursing in Virginia. Mr. Williams was present and was not represented by counsel. Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Robert C. Williams, R.N., holds License No. 0001-168824 issued by the Virginia Board of Nursing.
2. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code, she signed a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"), a pursuant to Chapter 25.1 of Title 54.1 of the Code, and 18 VAC 76-10-10, et seq., of the Regulations Governing the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program. On or about April 19, 2002, Mr. Williams was granted a stay of disciplinary action. On or about September 3, 2002, Mr. Williams' stay of disciplinary action was vacated. During the process for which the stay was vacated, the following occurred:
 - a. On or about June 20, 2002, Mr. Williams tested positive for cannabinoids.
 - b. Mr. Williams failed to enter treatment with the Community Services Board as

recommended by Virginia Monitoring.

- c. Mr. Williams failed to immediately advise his Case Manager with Virginia Monitoring that he received a prescription for Tylenol #3 from his dentist.

Mr. Williams' signed a Revised Recovery Monitoring Contract on October 29, 2002. Chris Young, Case Manager, reported that Mr. Williams is in compliance with the terms of his contract.

3. On or about January 4, 2002, by his own admission to the investigator from the Department of Health Professions:

- a. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Board of Nursing Regulations, in that Mr. Williams' employment with Capitol Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia, was terminated in June 2001 because he failed to report his 1987 misdemeanor conviction for sexual battery.

- b. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Board of Nursing Regulations in that beginning in late July 2001, he began diverting Ativan, and in late September 2001, he began diverting Nubain. Therefore, he began diverting Stadol (Opioid), a Schedule IV controlled substance, while employed at Henrico Doctor's Hospital, Richmond, Virginia.

- c. Mr. Williams has been treated for anxiety by Shane Kraus, M.D., who prescribed Xanax (Benzodiazepine), a Schedule IV controlled substance.

4. During the course of Mr. Williams' employment with Henrico Doctor's Hospital Parham Campus Emergency Room, Richmond, Virginia:

- a. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (6) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Board of Nursing Regulations in that by his own admission, from late July 2001 through December 23, 2001, Mr. Williams diverted Stadol, Ativan and Nubain for his personal and unauthorized use. He accomplished the diversion by having an emergency room physician write a prescription for Ativan for him, by keeping the amount of medication left after administering medications to patients, and by opening sharps containers and removing the vials after a witnessed wastage.
- b. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code in that on or about August 22, 2001, an elderly patient from a local nursing home was admitted to the emergency room. The patient was hypotensive with a history of GI bleed. While you and the physician were in the examining room, Mr. Williams became upset, left the patient unattended and left the emergency room department, advising only one nurse that he were leaving the unit and failing to provide information as to his whereabouts if needed. Additionally, when Mr. Williams returned to provide care to the patient, the patient was restless and Mr. Williams became agitated and stated in a loud voice, "Don't you pull out that IV, the next time, we'll put one right here," or words to that effect, as he tapped his finger on the patient's temporal area.
- c. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code in that on or about August 21, 2001, Mr. Williams was assigned to a patient who entered the emergency room via EMS secondary to unresponsiveness and low heart rate.

Instead of monitoring the patient, Mr. Williams left the patient to enter lab work into the computer system.

- d. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(2) and (5) of the Code in that on or about August 14, 2001, a patient entered the emergency room that had a rapid pulse rate. The attending physician ordered the administration of Cardizem 20 mg IV bolus, which should have been administered immediately; however, Mr. Williams did not begin the bolus for several minutes.
5. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(1) and (2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(2)(e) of the Board of Nursing Regulations in that during the course of Mr. Williams' employment with Tucker's Pavilion, Richmond, Virginia, on or about June 14, 2000, his employment was terminated. Specifically, his employment was terminated as follows:
 - a. Failing to inform his supervisor that he did not pass the examination for licensure as a professional nurse, and he continued to work as a registered nurse applicant, when he was aware that he could not continue to practice.
 - b. Falsifying his application for employment in that he stated that he did not have any convictions, when, in fact, he was convicted in 1987 of sexual battery, a misdemeanor.
 6. Mr. Williams has violated § 54.1-3007(1) and (2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(1)(a) of the Board of Nursing Regulations in that during On or about March 2, 2000, he submitted an application for licensure by examination as a registered nurse in the Commonwealth. On or about May 23, 2000, Mr. Williams submitted an application for licensure by repeat examination as a registered nurse in the Commonwealth. By his own

admission, Mr. Williams falsified both applications, in that he answered no to the question regarding criminal convictions, when, in fact, he was aware of his 1987 misdemeanor conviction of sexual battery.

ORDER


On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS that Robert C. Williams, R.N., who holds License No. 0001-168824, be, and hereby is, REPRIMANDED for his actions, and be and hereby is subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Mr. Williams shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPIP.
2. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Mr. Williams, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether his license shall be revoked. Mr. Williams shall be noticed to appear before a Committee at such time as the Board is notified that:
 - a) Mr. Williams is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPIP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPIP, or
 - b) There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegations against Mr. Williams involving a violation of law, regulation or any term or condition of this order, or,
 - c) Mr. Williams has successfully completed the specified period of participation in the HPIP. However, upon receipt of evidence of Mr. Williams' participation in and compliance with the HPIP, the Committee, at its discretion, may waive his appearance before the Committee, and conduct an administrative review of this

Pursuant to § 2.2-4023 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, 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.

If Mr. Williams does not consent to the committee's decision and desires a hearing before the Board or a panel thereof, he shall notify, in writing, Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 6606 W. Broad Street, Fourth Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717 within thirty-three (33) days from the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon the expiration of the thirty-three (33) day period unless a written request for a formal hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving timely request for a hearing, the Board or panel thereof shall then proceed with a hearing as provided in § 2.2-4020 and § 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

FOR THE BOARD


Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

November 25th, 2002
ENTERED

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a certified true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed on this day to Robert C. Williams, R.N., at 3445 Cedar Plains Road, Sandy Hook, Virginia 23153, and to his attorney, Lori E. Harris, at 6537 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23226.

Nancy K. Duffrett

Nancy K. Duffrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

November 25th, 2002

Date

Certified True Copy
By *(B) 11/25/02*
Virginia Board of Nursing