

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Dianne L. Reynolds-Cane, M.D. Director

Department of Health Professions
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Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC Executive Director

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 367-4569 FAX (804) 527-4455

NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

January 15, 2013

Stephanie L. Sisson, L.P.N. Reinstatement Applicant 3271 Alleghany Springs Road Shawsville, Virginia 24162

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 7160 3901 9849 2203 9809

Re:

VA License No.: 0002-046967

Suspension Date: April 2, 1996

Dear Ms. Sisson:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), on February 11, 2013, at 2:00 p.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will receive and act upon your application for the reinstatement of your license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which was suspended by an Order of the Board entered April 2, and will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically:

- 1. You may have violated §54.1-3007(4) of the Code in that:
- a. On or about November 29, 1999, you were convicted of issuing a bad check in an amount greater than \$200.00, in the Pulaski County, Virginia, General District Court.
- b. On or about August 28, 2000, you were convicted of issuing a bad check in an amount greater than \$200.00, in the Pulaski County General District Court.

- c. On October 25, 2004, you were convicted of six counts of issuing a bad check in an amount greater than \$200.00, in the Pulaski County General District Court.
- d. On or about April 27, 2005, you were convicted of three counts of issuing a bad check in an amount greater than \$200.00, in the Galax, Virginia, General District Court.
- 2. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unsafe to practice as a practical nurse due to your admitted substance and alcohol abuse. On or about December 12, 1996, you were convicted of three misdemeanor counts of possession of controlled substance in the Roanoke County, Virginia, General District Court.

The burden of providing evidence satisfactory to the Board that you are prepared to resume the competent practice of practical nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients rests with you.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in Virginia. Information about the HPMP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPMP prior to your informal conference, the Committee will take that into consideration when deciding your case.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- The Committee may reinstate your license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth without restriction;
- The Committee may reinstate your license and place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate, reprimand you, or impose a monetary penalty;
 - The Committee may deny your application for reinstatement of your license;
 - The Committee may modify a previous order; or

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 367-4515, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by February 4, 2013. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. These documents are enclosed <u>only</u> with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice, can be found on the Internet at http://legl.state.va.us. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

In the event of inclement weather, please be advised that Board of Nursing hearings will be held unless state offices are closed. Please listen to television or radio announcements to provide information about official state closings or delays. If there is a delayed opening, hearings will begin at the time of the agency opening. A recorded announcement pertaining to closings or delays will also be available by calling the main telephone number for the Department of Health Professions at (804) 367-4400.

Sincerely

Brenda Krohn, R.N., M.S. Deputy Executive Director

BK/lba

Enclosures

cc:

Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division Special Conference Committee Members Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist Patricia Sheehan, R.N., B.S., Senior Investigator (Case No. 146544) Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager