

Sandra Whitley Ryals Director

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Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC **Executive Director**

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NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

May 19, 2008

August S. Olinger R.N. 704 Cleghorn Valley Road Marion, Virginia 24354

CERTIFIED MAIL 71603901984518453927

RE:

VA License No.: 0001-194797

Expiration Date: August 31, 2008

Dear Ms. Olinger:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") will be held on June 17, 2008 at 10:30 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Richmond, Virginia. In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), this informal conference will be held before an agency subordinate of the Board of Nursing. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code. The agency subordinate will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically, you may be in violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unsafe to practice due to substance abuse and mental health issues as evidenced by your own admission of cocaine and marijuana use, and as revealed in a urine drug screen conducted on or about August 19. 2007, which was positive for cannabinoids and cocaine, upon your admission to Lewis Gale Medical Center, Salem, Virginia for complaints of chest pain after using cocaine. You were subsequently transferred to Lewis Gale Behavioral Health on or about August 21, 2007, for treatment for cocaine abuse and depression.

Notice of Informal Conference - August S. Olinger, R.N. Page 2 of 3

In its deliberations, the agency subordinate may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 367-4515

After consideration of all information, the agency subordinate may:

- If the agency subordinate finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- Recommend findings of fact, conclusions of law and a sanction, to include a reprimand, placing you on probation with terms, suspension or revocation of your license, or imposing a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code.

Further, the agency subordinate may refer this matter for a formal administrative proceeding pursuant to § 2.2-4020 of the Code.

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

Board's Review of Agency Subordinate's Recommended Decision

If you appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation and move the case to formal hearing. If you do not agree with the decision of the Board, you have the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board.

If you fail to appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation. The Board's decision regarding the agency subordinate's recommendation is a final order that can only be appealed to circuit court as provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the agency subordinate in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the agency subordinate, and will be considered when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon 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.

Notice of Informal Conference - August S. Olinger, R.N. Page 3 of 3

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the agency subordinate to consider to the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23233, by June 12, 2008. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, because absent good cause to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on June 17, 2008. A request to continue this proceeding must state in detail the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made, in writing, to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12 noon on June 12, 2008. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after June 12, 2008, will not be considered

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://leg1.state.va.us. To access this information, please click on the Code of Virginia for statutes and Virginia Administrative Code for regulations.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact this office at (804) 367-4576.

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A. Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

GDM/bl Enclosures

cc: Sandra Whitley Ryals, Director, Department of Health Professions
Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Amanda E. Mitchell, Adjudication Specialist
Sandra Barton, Senior Investigator (Case no. 116287)
Agency Subordinate
Peggy Wood, Intervention Program Manager