

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING AND MEDICINE

IN RE: JULIE A. CHITTY, L.N.P.
License Nos.: 0024-164586, 0017-137397

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 Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine ("Committee of the Joint Boards") on December 3, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia. Julie A. Chitty, L.N.P., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Janet Younger, serving as Agency Subordinate for the Committee of the Joint Boards, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On April 9, 2014, a quorum of the Committee of the Joint Boards met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Chitty was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Committee of the Joint Boards makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Julie A. Chitty, L.N.P., was issued License No. 0024-164586 to practice as a nurse practitioner on October 26, 2000, and Authorization to Prescribe No. 0017-137397 on August 31, 2001, both of which are set to expire on November 30, 2015.
2. By letter dated August 30, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Chitty notifying her that an informal conference would be held on September 25, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 3120 Bridgetown Place, Dulles, Virginia, 20189, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. By letter dated September 25, 2013, the Board notified Ms. Chitty

that the informal conference had been continued until December 3, 2013. The letter was sent by certified and first class mail to 8915 Sudbury Road, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20901, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. During the course of her employment as a nurse practitioner with the U.S. Embassy in Barbados, on January 15, 2013, Ms. Chitty consumed alcohol during her lunch break and continued to consume alcohol at work in her office. Ms. Chitty was observed to be intoxicated by a co-worker and sent home. She resigned her employment with the Embassy.

4. On January 22, 2013, Ms. Chitty entered outpatient treatment for alcohol abuse in Washington, D.C. She stated in her interview with the investigator that she has had two relapses since the initial incident at work.

5. Ms. Chitty is currently receiving outpatient treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and is prescribed Zoloft, Wellbutrin, and Levothyroxin. She meets with a psychiatrist and a psychotherapist for treatment. She attends Alcoholics Anonymous once a week.

6. Ms. Chitty signed a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") on March 18, 2013, and a Recovery Monitoring Contract on April 13, 2013. Ms. Chitty was dismissed from the HPMP on July 19, 2013, for noncompliance with the urine toxicology screening program. She missed one screen and failed to call the test line twice. All her screens were negative.

7. Ms. Chitty is currently not working in healthcare.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. License No. 0024-164586 of Julie Chitty, L.N.P., to practice as a nurse practitioner is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.

2. Authorization to Prescribe No. 0017-137397 of Julie Chitty, L.N.P., is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.

3. The license and authorization to prescribe will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.

4. At such time as Ms. Chitty shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license and authorization to prescribe, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of a nurse practitioner. Ms. Chitty shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

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. Chitty may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on June 17, 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

Alaina Mitchell

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

ENTERED: May 15, 2014

Certified True Copy

By *[Signature]*
Virginia Board of Nursing

This Order shall become final on June 17, 2014 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.