



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

David E. Brown, D.C.  
Director

## Department of Health Professions

Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4515  
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### NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

November 3, 2015

Cynthia McCaffrey, R.N.  
106 Donovan Court  
Yorktown, Virginia 23693

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
9414 7266 9904 2028 4905 85

301 N. Cheswick Circle  
Yorktown, Virginia 23693

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
9414 7266 9904 2028 4905 78

RE: VA License No.: 0001-107629  
Expiration Date: November 30, 2015

Dear Ms. McCaffrey:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) will be held on **December 1, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.**, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, 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 governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically, you may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unsafe to practice professional nursing due to substance abuse and/or mental and/or physical illness, as evidenced by the following:

1. You have been hospitalized several times in 2015, twice by Temporary Detention Order, due to alcohol intoxication, suicidal ideation, and attempted suicide by overdose. Your discharge diagnoses included depressive disorder, polysubstance abuse, and alcohol dependence. You also received inpatient substance abuse treatment during this time.

2. On March 17, 2015, you signed a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") in which you acknowledged that your alcohol abuse impairs your ability to practice nursing. You were dismissed from the HPMP on May 15, 2015, for failing to comply with treatment recommendations, failing to attend orientation, failing to register for the toxicology screening program, and failing to communicate with your case manager.

3. When being treated for acute pancreatitis in the Summer of 2015, it was noted that you continued to consume alcohol despite your condition. In an interview with an investigator for the Department of Health Professions on July 14, 2015, you stated that you were unable to refrain from the use of alcohol.

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.

### **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 only 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.**

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 November 24, 2015. 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 December 1, 2015. 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 November 24, 2015. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after November 24, 2015 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 our office, at (804) 367-4502.

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,



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

GML/sts  
Enclosures

cc: Anne Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division  
Lisa Thomas, Senior Investigator (Case no. 161713)  
Agency Subordinate