

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

SHERYL LENORIS MASON, L.P.N.

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing (the "Board") and Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Mason's license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., currently holds License No. 0002-048568 to practice as a practical nurse in the Commonwealth. Ms. Mason also previously held Certificate No. 1401-004064 to practice as a certified nurse aide, which expired on April 30, 1995. The Virginia Board of Nursing issued both her license and this expired certificate.
2. By letter received by fax on July 29, 2002, Ms. Mason voluntarily tendered the surrender of her license, based on her recognized need to obtain an evaluation and treatment under her contract with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"), pursuant to Chapter 25.1 of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and 18 VAC 76-10-10, et seq., of the Regulations Governing the HPIP.
3. By Order entered February 11, 1998, Ms. Mason's license to practice practical nursing was indefinitely suspended for not less than two (2) years. This action was based on her engaging in sexual intercourse with an inmate while employed as a nurse at Greensville Correctional Center, Jarratt, Virginia. By Order entered December 4, 2000, Ms. Mason's license was reinstated, and she was placed on probation subject to certain terms and conditions. Ms. Mason has violated certain of these terms and conditions. Specifically:
 - A. Ms. Mason failed to obtain an evaluation from a Board-approved mental health specialist,

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as required by Term No. 2.a.

- B.** Ms. Mason failed to obtain Board-approval for a counselor. Ms. Mason had begun seeing Evelyn Welti, R.N., the Medical College of Virginia Division of Ambulatory Care Psychiatry, Richmond, Virginia, for individual therapy in November 2000, prior to the requirement for Board approval. Ms. Mason failed to have Ms. Welti submit a curriculum vitae for approval, and failed to have her submit a written progress report related to the minimum of six (6) counseling sessions addressing boundary issues, as specifically required by Term No. 2.b.
- C.** Prior to returning to the practice of nursing, Ms. Mason failed to meet with a Special Conference Committee to consider her compliance with and reports resulting from the evaluation, her counselor, and her compliance with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"), as required by Term No. 2.
- D.** Ms. Mason failed to inform the Board of her employment with National Nurses Service, Inc., from February 21, 2001 through May 29, 2001, as required by Term No. 3, until after Ms. Mason had resigned this employment. Additionally, Ms. Mason failed to submit all quarterly self reports, as required by Term No. 3, in that her report for the quarter ending September 30, 2001, was received late, and the report for the quarter ending Jun 30, 2002, has not been received.
- E.** Ms. Mason failed to submit the fee required by Term No. 4 to have her license marked "Probation with Terms."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., has violated Term Nos. 2, 2a, 2b, 3 and 4 of the Order entered December 4, 2000.

This matter is properly before the Board, and the foregoing facts, if proven at a formal hearing,

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would constitute violations of the Nursing Practice Act and the Board is authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions, including accepting the voluntary surrender of said license.

CONSENT

Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. Ms. Mason acknowledges that she has been specifically advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. Ms. Mason acknowledges that she is fully aware that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000 A, et seq., of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended;
3. Ms. Mason acknowledges that she has the following rights among others: the right to an informal fact finding conference before the Board, to reasonable notice of said administrative proceeding, to representation by counsel, and the right to present witnesses and evidence on her behalf;
4. Ms. Mason waives all such right to an informal conference;
5. Ms. Mason admits to the above Findings of Fact;
6. Ms. Mason consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her license to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Consent Order, accepts the surrender of the license of Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., in lieu of further proceedings, and hereby ORDERS that License No. 0002-048568 issued to Ms. Mason to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, be and hereby is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED. At such time as Ms. Mason shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to receive evidence satisfactory to the Board that Ms. Mason is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of nursing.

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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 inspections or copying on request.

Upon entry of this Order, the license of Sheryl Lenoris Mason will be recorded as indefinitely suspended and no longer current. Consistent with the terms of this Order, in the event that Ms. Mason seeks reinstatement of her license, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of her license prior to issuance of her license to resume practice.

FOR THE BOARD

Janet B. Younger
Janet B. Younger, R.N., Ph.D., J.N.P.
President

Entered: September 24th, 2002

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Sheryl L. Mason
Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

County/City of Hampton, to-wit:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Donna L. Swiney, a

Notary Public, by Sheryl Lenoris Mason, L.P.N., this 29th day of July, 2002.

My commission expires the 31st day of August, 2004.

Donna L. Swiney
Notary Public