

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:           RONALD M. SCHNEIDER, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT**  
**License No.: 0001-134875**

**ORDER**

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on February 10, 2014, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon the application of Ronald M. Schneider for reinstatement of his license to practice professional nursing in Virginia and to inquire into evidence that Mr. Schneider may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Mr. Schneider was present and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Ronald M. Schneider was issued License No. 0001-134875 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on September 15, 1993. Said license was suspended by Order of the Board entered on November 25, 2008, due to findings of alcohol abuse and impairment while on duty. His primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated January 7, 2014, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Mr. Schneider notifying him that an informal conference would be held on February 10, 2014. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 11606 Gordon School Road, North Chesterfield, Virginia 23236, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. Mr. Schneider submitted an application for reinstatement of his license to practice professional nursing which was received by the Board on July 16, 2013.

4. Mr. Schneider was hospitalized at John Randolph Medical Center from May 23, 2012 to May 29, 2012, for depression and alcohol dependence. He entered an intensive outpatient treatment program at The Healing Place on May 30, 2012, and successfully completed the program on October 14, 2013. Mr. Schneider reported a sobriety date of May 22, 2012. He entered a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP") on October 13, 2013, and a Recovery Monitoring Contract on December 16, 2013. In a letter dated January 29, 2014, the HPMP case manager reported that Mr. Schneider is in compliance with his contract.

5. On the application for reinstatement dated July 15, 2013, Mr. Schneider answered "no" to the question, "do you have a mental, physical or chemical dependency condition which could interfere with your current ability to practice nursing," although he acknowledge having abused alcohol. Mr. Schneider stated that he misunderstood the question and was not trying to hide anything.

6. Mr. Schneider has been employed with a local cab company since May 2013. He is also the manager of the recovery house where he currently resides. Mr. Schneider's sponsor and the coordinator from The Healing Place appeared at the informal conference and spoke on his behalf.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Finding of Fact No. 5 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(1) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.
3. The Board concludes that Mr. Schneider has demonstrated satisfactory evidence that he is prepared to resume practice in a safe and competent manner with certain terms and conditions.

#### **ORDER**


On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. The license of Ronald M. Schneider to practice professional nursing in Virginia is hereby REINSTATED contingent upon his continued compliance with all terms and conditions of the HPMP for the period specified by the HPMP.
2. This order shall be applicable to Mr. Schneider's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Mr. Schneider shall not work outside the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where he wishes to work. Any request for out of state employment shall be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.
3. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Ronald M. Schneider, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether his license should be revoked. Mr. Schneider shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:
  - a. Mr. Schneider is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPMP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPMP;
  - b. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against Mr. Schneider involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of [probation or] this Order; or
  - c. Mr. Schneider has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPMP. However, upon receipt of Mr. Schneider's participation in and compliance with the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Mr. Schneider's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.
4. Mr. Schneider shall maintain a course of conduct in his capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4023 and 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 public record and shall be made available for public inspection or copying on request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Mr. Schneider may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **March 31, 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 he 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 COMMITTEE:

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

ENTERED: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014

This Order shall become final on **March 31, 2014**, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By   
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Virginia Board of Nursing