

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

RONALD MERRELL SCHNEIDER, R.N.

ORDER

Pursuant to § 9-6.14:11 and §54.1-3010 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (the "Code"), a Special Conference Committee of the Board of Nursing met on October 18, 1994, to receive and act upon evidence that Ronald Merrell Schneider, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in Virginia. Mr. Schneider was present and was not represented by counsel. Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ronald Merrell Schneider, R.N., holds License No. 0001-134875, issued by the Virginia Board of Nursing.
2. During the course of his employment with the Medical College of Virginia Hospital, Richmond, Virginia, on or about February 9, 1994, Mr. Schneider provided nursing care to Patient A. On February 10, 1994, by his own admission, Mr. Schneider returned to the hospital while off duty to visit Patient A. During this visit, Mr. Schneider was seen kissing the patient on the lips. As a result of this incident he resigned his employment on February 16, 1994.
3. Mr. Schneider is currently employed as coordinator of the Acute Dialysis Program with Bio-Medical Applications of West End, Richmond, Virginia. His employer is aware of this incident and gives him an excellent report.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes that Ronald Merrell Schneider, R.N., has violated § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS that License No. 0001-134875, issued to Ronald Merrell Schneider, R.N., to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, be placed on PROBATION subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The period of probation shall begin on the date that this Order is final and shall end upon completion of one (1) year of employment as a Registered Nurse.
2. All written reports required by this Order shall be sent to the Board office with the first report being received no later than thirty (30) days following the date that this Order is final. Subsequent reports must be received quarterly by the last day of the months of March, June, September and December until the period of probation ends.
3. Mr. Schneider shall inform his nursing employer and each future nursing employer that the Board has placed his license on probation and shall provide his employer with a copy of this Order. If, at any time, Mr. Schneider is employed through a staffing agency, he shall inform his supervisor in each facility where assigned that his license is on probation.
4. Before changing employment, Mr. Schneider shall request that his prospective employer provide a written description of the structured, supervised employment setting to the Board office

for approval.

5. Mr. Schneider shall inform the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any change of employment including the name and address of the new employer as well as the date he began employment. Mr. Schneider shall inform the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any interruption in nursing practice.
6. Mr. Schneider shall have an evaluation by a mental health specialist satisfactory to the Board and shall have a written report of the evaluation, including a diagnosis, recommended course of therapy, prognosis, and any recommendations sent to the Board within forty-five (45) days after the date that this Order is entered. Mr. Schneider shall comply with the recommendations of the specialist, if there are any. If therapy is recommended, written progress reports by the therapist shall be sent to the Board as stated in term number 2 until discharged. Mr. Schneider shall provide the therapist with a copy of this Order and authorize the therapist to communicate with the Board's representatives concerning his progress.
7. Written reports shall be provided by Mr. Schneider which will include his current address and current employment, if any. These reports shall be sent to the Board office as stated in term number 2.
8. Mr. Schneider shall return all copies of his current license to practice professional nursing to the Board office within ten (10) days of the date of entry of this Order. Upon receipt of the old license and a \$15.00 fee, the Board shall issue a new license marked PROBATION WITH TERMS.

9. Mr. Schneider, as a Registered Nurse shall conduct himself in compliance with the requirements of Title 54.1, Chapter 30 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Mr. Schneider, and a hearing shall be held to decide whether his license shall be revoked.

The Board shall issue an unrestricted license to Mr. Schneider without a hearing at the completion of the probationary period unless there is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation involving a violation of law, regulation or any term or condition of probation. In that event, the period of probation shall be continued indefinitely or until such time as the Board makes a case decision in accordance with the Administrative Process Act, § 9-6.14:1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Pursuant to § 9-6.14:14 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.

If Mr. Schneider does not consent to the committee's decision and desires a hearing before the Board or a panel thereof, he shall notify, in writing, Corinne F. Dorsey, R.N., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 6606 W. Broad Street, Fourth Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717 within thirty-three (33) days from the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon the expiration of the thirty-three-day period unless a written request

for a formal hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving timely request for a hearing, the Board or panel thereof shall then proceed with a hearing as provided in §9-6.14:12 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

FOR THE BOARD

Corinne F. Dorsey
Corinne F. Dorsey, R.N.
Executive Director

October 27, 1994
ENTERED

Received: October 28, 1994

By: John W. Hasty
John W. Hasty, Director
Department of Health Professions

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a certified true copy of the foregoing order was mailed on this day to Ronald Merrell Schneider, R.N., at 10543 Glenmar Court, Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060.

Corinne F. Dorsey
Corinne F. Dorsey, R.N.
Executive Director

November 1, 1994
Date