

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Dianne L. Reynolds-Cane, M.D. Director

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

www.dhp.virginia.gov TEL (804) 367- 4400 FAX (804) 527- 4475

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

Board of Nursing (804) 367-4555 Nurse Aide Registry (804) 367-4639 FAX (804) 527-4455

September 2, 2011

Erica Montegut, R.N. 306 Vivian Court Yorktown, VA 23690

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 71603901984801656745

In Town Suites #235 11931 Jefferson Avenue Newport News, VA 23606 CERTIFIED MAIL 71603901984801656738

Re: License No.:

0001-209026

**Expiration Date:** 

September 30, 2012

Dear Ms. Montegut:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), on October 4, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically, you may be in violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that you may be unable to safely practice professional nursing due to substance abuse and mental illness. By your own admission, you became addicted to prescription pain medication in 2009, you began drinking alcohol excessively to cope with personal issues, and you were hospitalized at Riverside Behavioral Health Center, Newport News, Virginia in April 2011 after displaying suicidal ideation. Further, on July 20, 2011, you signed a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program, in which you acknowledged your chemical abuse and mental health issues.

In its deliberations, the Committee 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.

Since the allegations listed above involve impairment, please be advised that you may make application to the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), which is available to all health care practitioners licensed in Virginia. Information about the HPMP is enclosed. Should you enter into a written agreement with the HPMP prior to your informal conference, the Committee will take that into consideration when deciding your case.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- If the Committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the Committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate;
  - The Committee may reprimand you;
  - The Committee may impose a monetary penalty.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Committee is of the opinion that suspension or revocation may be justified, the Committee may offer you a Consent Order for suspension or revocation in lieu of a formal hearing.

If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 367-4576, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by September 29, 2011. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. These documents are enclosed <u>only</u> 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.

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 <a href="http://leg1.state.va.us">http://leg1.state.va.us</a>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

Erica Montegut, R.N. Page 3

Sincerely,

Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A.

Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

GDM/dg

Enclosures

Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division cc:

Special Conference Committee Members David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist

Lisa Thomas, Senior Investigator (Case No. 138203)

Peggy Wood, Monitoring Program Manager