

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: LINDA A. KEEN, R.N. REINSTATEMENT APPLICANT
License No.: 0001-215485**

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 2.2-4024(F), and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), Linda A. Keen, who, prior to its mandatory suspension by the Department of Health Professions on September 12, 2012, held License No. 0001-215485 to practice professional nursing in Virginia, is hereby given notice that a formal administrative hearing will be held in the presence of a panel of the Board of Nursing. The hearing will be held on January 27, 2014, at 1:00 p.m., at the offices of the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233, at which time Ms. Keen will be afforded the opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel.

At the hearing, Ms. Keen has the following rights, among others: the right to representation by counsel; the right to have witnesses subpoenaed and to present witnesses on her behalf; the right to present documentary evidence; and the right to cross-examine adverse witnesses. If Ms. Keen desires any witnesses to appear on her behalf, she must notify the Director of Administrative Proceedings, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in accordance with the Instructions for Requesting Subpoenas.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive and act upon the application of Linda A. Keen for reinstatement of her license to practice professional nursing in Virginia which was mandatorily suspended on September 12, 2012, and to inquire into evidence that Ms. Keen may have violated certain laws and regulations governing professional nursing practice in Virginia, as more fully set forth in the Statement of Particulars below.

The burden rests upon Ms. Keen, as the applicant, to demonstrate that she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of professional nursing in Virginia.

Pursuant to § 54.1-2409 of the Code, reinstatement of Ms. Keen's license requires the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of the Board in attendance at the hearing.

STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS

The Board alleges that:

1. Linda A. Keen may have violated § 54.1-3007(7) of the Code in that:

a. By Consent Order entered by the North Carolina Board of Nursing on August 16, 2012, Ms. Keen surrendered her privilege to practice professional nursing in the State of North Carolina for a minimum of one year. Said action formed the basis of the mandatory suspension of her license in Virginia.

b. By Consent Agreement entered on December 3, 2012, by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, Ms. Keen surrendered her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Massachusetts for not less than three years.

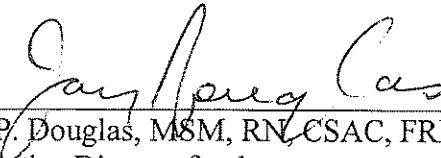
2. Ms. Keen may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (3), (5), (6) and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations") in that during the course of her employment with Granville Medical Center, Oxford, North Carolina, by her own admission, from in or about March 2012 to July 2, 2012, Ms. Keen diverted medications for her personal and unauthorized use, including morphine, Dilaudid (hydromorphone) and Demerol (meperidine), (all Schedule II). Ms. Keen accomplished the diversion by signing out medications for patients in other departments that were not assigned to her.

3. Ms. Keen may have violated § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code in that she may be unable to safely practice professional nursing due to substance abuse and physical illness which require medication and treatment. Further, Ms. Keen reported that she failed to notify her treating physicians of her substance abuse

and that as recently as July, 2013, she continued to receive prescriptions containing narcotics. On or about November 13, 2013, Ms. Keen entered a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program wherein she acknowledged substance abuse.

4. Ms. Keen may have violated § 54.1-3007(1) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(1)(b) of the Regulations in that on the application for reinstatement dated October 4, 2013, Ms. Keen falsely 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," when, in fact, she has impairing physical and chemical dependency conditions as indicated above.

FOR THE BOARD



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

ENTERED: January 8th, 2014