

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: BONITA BARNES-SHORTER, R.M.A., C.N.A. APPLICANT

ORDER

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(7) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") on December 12, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia. Ms. Barnes-Shorter was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Nancy Durrett, R.N., M.S., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration. Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 10, 2013, the Board received an application from Bonita Barnes-Shorter for registration by endorsement as a medication aide ("R.M.A.") in Virginia and on October 16, 2013, the Board received an application from Ms. Barnes-Shorter for certification by endorsement as a certified nurse aide ("C.N.A.") in Virginia.
2. By letter dated November 25, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Barnes-Shorter notifying her that an informal conference would be held on December 12, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 745 Edenway, Chesapeake, Virginia, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. Ms. Barnes-Shorter was convicted of escape, a felony, on August 15, 2001, in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. She served nine months in federal prison.
4. At the informal conference, Ms. Barnes-Shorter stated that she grew up in a

dysfunctional family and began abusing drugs at an early age. She continued to abuse drugs into early adulthood.

5. At the informal conference, Ms. Barnes-Shorter stated that she has been abstinent from drugs ever since she lived in a shelter for abused women for four months in 2005. While residing at this shelter, she attended a substance abuse recovery program. Ms. Barnes-Shorter reported a sobriety date of July 10, 2005, and stated that she is an active member of Narcotics Anonymous (“NA”) and Alcoholics Anonymous (“AA”) and has a sponsor of long- standing. She provided a letter of support from a member of her NA group. She resided in 2005-2006 in Sobriety House in Durham, North Carolina and attended NA and AA meetings.

6. Ms. Barnes provided in-home care in the District of Columbia for two years and became certified in 2008 in North Carolina as a C.N.A. She also applied for and received medication aide registration in North Carolina and worked as a medication aide supervisor from 2009-2011. Ms. Barnes-Shorter provided reference letters from two previous co-workers. Most recently, Ms. Barnes-Shorter has been employed in North Carolina by Favorite Health Care Staffing which will rehire her once she is certified in Virginia.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact #4 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(4) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”).
2. Finding of Fact #5 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
3. Ms. Barnes-Shorter otherwise meets the requirements of 18 VAC 90-60-92 of the Regulations Governing the Registration of Medication Aides and 18 VAC 90-25-72 of the Regulations Governing Certified Nurse Aides.

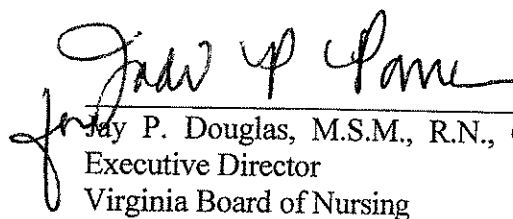
ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that the applications of Bonita Barnes-Shorter for registration as a medication aide and certification as a nurse aide by endorsement are APPROVED. Ms. Barnes-Shorter shall be issued an unrestricted medication aide registration and an unrestricted nurse aide certificate.

Pursuant to § 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 a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Barnes-Shorter may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **January 29, 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 she 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 BOARD


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

Entered: December 27, 2013

This Order shall become final on January 29, 2014; unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board Of Nursing