VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

ALTHEA MORAN, C.N.A. Certificate No.: 1401-029388

<u>ORDER</u>

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021 and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on November 12, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia. Althea Moran, C.N.A., was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel. Jane Elliott, R.N., Ph.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On January 29, 2014, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Moran was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

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. Althea Moran, C.N.A., was issued Certificate No. 1401-029388 to practice as a nurse aide in Virginia on June 15, 1991. The certificate is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2014, but was mandatorily suspended on December 12, 2013.
- 2. By letter dated August 30, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Moran notifying her that an informal conference would be held on September 26, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 1507 Pollock Street, Richmond, Virginia 23222, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. On September 24,

- 2013, Ms. Moran requested and was granted a continuance. By letter dated September 24, 2013, the Board notified Ms. Moran that her informal conference was rescheduled for November 12, 2013. The letter was by sent by certified mail to the address of record for the Board. According to the United States Postal Service website, the letter was delivered on September 25, 2013. The Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Moran and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.
- 3. In early 2013, during the course of her employment with Senior Bridge, Richmond, Virginia, Ms. Moran stole an eight-piece silver setting, silver cups and trays from a home health client.
- 4. On June 7, 2013, Ms. Moran's employment with Senior Bridge was terminated after she admitted that she had a long history of crack cocaine abuse and that she had taken the silverware to obtain money for drugs.
- 5. From June 10, 2013 until June 14, 2013, Ms. Moran was hospitalized at the VCU Health Systems, Richmond, Virginia, for suicidal ideations. She was diagnosed with depressive disorder, not otherwise specified, cocaine dependence, and cannabis dependence. Ms. Moran reported to the hospital staff that she had a \$150.00 a day cocaine habit.
- 6. On July 9, 2013, Ms. Moran admitted to an investigator for the Department of Health Professions that she has abused crack cocaine daily for the last 23 years.
- 7. Ms. Moran stated that she could not afford to participate in the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program.
- 8. On October 24, 2013, Ms. Moran pled guilty to two felonies in the Henrico County, Virginia, Circuit Court related to her theft. She will be sentenced on January 4, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code

and 18 VAC 90-25-100(2)(h) of the Regulations Governing Certified Nurse Aides.

- 2. Finding of Fact No.3 and Conclusion of Law No. 1 constitute a Finding of Misappropriation of patient property pursuant to 42 CFR § 483.156(b)(2) and (c)(1)(iv)(D) of the Code of Federal Regulations.
 - 3. Findings of Fact Nos. 5 and 6 constitute a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

- 1. The right of Althea Moran to renew Certificate No. 1401-029388 to practice as a nurse aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby REVOKED.
 - 2. The certificate will be recorded as revoked and no longer current.
- 3. A Finding of Misappropriation of patient property shall be ENTERED against Ms. Moran in the Virginia Nurse Aide Registry pursuant to 42 CFR § 483.13(c)(1)(ii)(B) and 42 CFR § 483.156(b)(2) and (c)(1)(iv)(D). This finding prohibits Ms. Moran's employment as a certified nurse aide in any long-term care facility that receives Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement, according to 42 CFR § 483.13(c)(1)(ii)(B).

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

Since Ms. Moran failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Moran has the right to appeal this Order directly to the appropriate Virginia circuit court. As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, Ms. Moran has 30 days from the date of service (the date she actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to her, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, at Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite

Order – Althea Moran, C.N.A. Page 4 of 4

300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. In the event that this decision is served by mail, three (3) days are added to that period.

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: