

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: APRIL YEATTS, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-077538

ORDER

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 August 29, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia. Ms. Yeatts 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 November 19, 2013, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Yeatts 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. April Yeatts, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-077538 to practice practical nursing in Virginia on February 8, 2008. The license expired on May 31, 2013. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated August 2, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Yeatts notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 29, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 2100 Elkhorn Road, Java, Virginia 24565, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. Ms. Yeatts did not claim her certified mail package from the post office, and it was returned to the Board office. The first class mail was not returned to the

Board office. The Agency Subordinate concluded that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Yeatts, and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

3. During her employment with Interim Health Care, Gretna, Virginia, while assigned to provide care to Patient A in his home:

a. From December 17, 2012, through December 31, 2012, Ms. Yeatts forged Patient A's signature on the Skilled Nursing visit notes without his permission. She admitted to the Director of Nursing that she photocopied the patient's signature. Ms. Yeatts falsified approximately seven visits.

b. Ms. Yeatts failed to provide daily wound care for Patient A on at least two days in December, 2012, without notifying Patient A that she would be absent, leaving the patient without care.

c. Ms. Yeatts borrowed \$75.00 from Patient A, which has not been repaid after multiple requests for repayment.

4. Ms. Yeatts is not eligible for rehire at Interim Health Care. After only six months of employment, when confronted with care issues and her failure to submit documentation, Ms. Yeatts resigned her position.

5. Ms. Yeatts did not respond to the investigator's attempts to interview her. Therefore, the Board has no information about her prior or current employment.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact #3(a) constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code, and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations").

2. Finding of Fact #3(b) constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code

and 18 VAC 90-20-300 (A)(2)(f) of the Regulations.

3. Finding of Fact #3(c) constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300 (A)(2)(j) of the Regulations.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. The right of April Yeatts, L.P.N., to renew License No. 0002-077538 is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.

2. The license will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.

3. At such time as Ms. Yeatts shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of practical nursing. Ms. Yeatts shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of the license prior to issuance of the license to resume practice.

4. This suspension applies to any multistate privilege to practice practical nursing.

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.

Since Ms. Yeatts failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final. Ms. Yeatts 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. Yeatts has thirty (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

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:

Gloria Mitchell

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

Entered: November 25, 2013

Certified True Copy

By [Signature]
Virginia Board of Nursing