VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

ANNETTE BONNER, L.P.N.

<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 June 8, 2010, in Henrico County, Virginia. Annette Bonner, L.P.N., was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. Janet B. Younger, R.N., P.N.P., Ph.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On November 17, 2010, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Bonner 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. Annette Bonner, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-035045 to practice as a practical nurse in Virginia on November 30, 1984. The license expired on July 31, 2010.
- 2. Ms. Bonner received a Reprimand from the Board in an Order entered on July 21, 2008, for falsifying an application for employment in that she failed to disclose on the application that her prior employment had been terminated for patient abandonment and other work performance issues.
- 3. By letter dated July 9, 2010, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Bonner notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 9, 2010. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 3557 Dunedin Drive #103, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321, the

address of record on file with the Board. The US Postal Service left a notice of certified mail at Ms. Bonner's address of record on July 10, 2010. The Notice sent by first class mail was returned to the Board marked "Not deliverable as addressed – Unable to forward" on August 9, 2010. The Agency Subordinate concluded that Ms. Bonner was provided adequate notice and the informal conference proceeded in her absence.

- 4. On August 6, 2009, the Board entered an Order against Ms. Bonner reprimanding her and ordering her to complete a course on anger management and a course on managing aggressive patients. Term No. 2 of the Order stated further that proof of completion of the courses was to be received by the Board within 90 days after entry of the Order (i.e., November 4, 2009). The Board's action was based on its finding that on December 9, 2008, Ms. Bonner was involved in a physical altercation with a resident while employed at Autumn Care of Great Bridge, Chesapeake, Virginia.
- 5. On November 23, 2009, Ms. Bonner requested an extension of the deadline to complete the anger management course. In her extension request, Ms. Bonner stated that she was under a doctor's care for depression and anxiety. She also stated that she was undergoing a personal crisis. On December 11, 2009, the Board approved an extension of the deadline to January 11, 2010. On February 4, 2010, Ms. Bonner started a 12-session anger management class presented by the Chesapeake Community Services Board. On February 5, 2010, Ms. Bonner requested additional time from the Board to complete the anger management class. She cited her deep depression, anxiety, unemployment, and personal crisis as the reasons that she needed additional time. Ms. Bonner attended only the first two sessions of the Chesapeake Community Services Board anger management course.
- 6. On February 17, 2010, in an interview with her Department of Health Professions compliance case manager, Ms. Bonner acknowledged that due to her depression and anxiety, she received treatment at a crisis center in Hampton, Virginia, for three or four days beginning on December 16, 2009.

While doctors at the crisis center prescribed Vistaril and trazadone upon discharge, Ms. Bonner admitted that she stopped taking these medications in January, 2010. Ms. Bonner stated that even though she had experienced some trauma in her personal life, she felt that she was ready to return to work.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 5 constitutes a violation of Term #2 of the Board Order.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

- 1. Annette Bonner, L.P.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
- 2. The right to renew License No. 0002-035045 of Annette Bonner, L.P.N., is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED for a period of not less than one year, and until such time as she provides proof that she has completed the courses required by the Order of the Board entered on August 6, 2009.
 - 3. The license will be recorded as suspended.
- 4. At such time as Ms. Bonner 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. Bonner 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.

Since Ms. Bonner failed to appear at the informal conference, this Order shall be considered final.

Ms. Bonner 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. Bonner 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

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first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., 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.

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.

FOR THE BOARD

Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.

Executive Director Board of Nursing

Entered: <u>Jerembe</u> 33

Certified True Copy

Virginia Board of Nursing