

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: PAMELA J. SICKAL, R.N.**  
**License No.: 0001-227385**

**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 February 22, 2012, in Henrico County, Virginia. Pamela Sickal, R.N., was present and was represented by Nathan Mortier, Esquire. Jane Elliott, R.N., Ph.D., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On May 16, 2012, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Sickal 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. Pamela Sickal, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-227385 to practice professional nursing in Virginia on September 28, 2010. The license is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2012. Ms. Sickal's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated January 31, 2012, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Sickal notifying her that an informal conference would be held on February 22, 2012. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 101 Langford Lane, Water View, Virginia, 23180, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with Lancashire Convalescent and Rehabilitation

Center, Kilmarnock, Virginia, Virginia, on July 14, 2010, Ms. Sickal administered a double dose of morphine to a patient after she misread the physician's order. There was no patient harm.

4. Between June 3, 2010, and July 20, 2010, during the course of her employment with Lancashire Convalescent and Rehabilitation Center, Ms. Sickal practiced professional nursing without a license or authorization from the Board after failing the NCLEX-RN examination on June 3, 2010.

5. Ms. Sickal stated at the informal conference that she continued to practice professional nursing after failing the NCLEX-RN examination because she did not know that failing the examination terminated her ability to practice professional nursing as an R.N. Applicant. She stated that she believed that she could continue to practice until she passed the NCLEX exam, despite receiving a letter from the Board advising her otherwise.

6. Ms. Sickal is currently employed with Hospice of Virginia, where she has worked since September 2011. She is still employed with Lancashire Convalescent and Rehabilitation Center on a PRN basis, but she stated that she has not actually worked there in a long period of time.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code") and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

2. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of §§ 54.1-3007(3) and 54.1-3008(2) of the Code.

#### **ORDER**

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Pamela J. Sickal, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Sickal shall pay a MONETARY PENALTY of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS

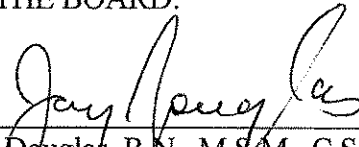
(\$200.00) to the Board within 30 days of the entry of this Order.

3. Ms. Sickal shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

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. Sickal may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on **June 26, 2012**, notify Jay P. Douglas, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that he/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, R.N., M.S.M., C.S.A.C.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: May 26<sup>TH</sup> 2012

This Order shall become final on **June 26, 2012**; unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.