



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Dianne L. Reynolds-Cane, M.D.
Director

Department of Health Professions

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Virginia Board of Nursing
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Executive Director

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July 3, 2013

Shameka A. Harris, R.N.
824 Newkirk Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23224

CERTIFIED MAIL
7160 3901 9849 2200 9796

Re: VA License No.: 0001-173367
Expiration Date: January 31, 2014

Dear Ms. Harris:

This is official notification that an informal conference will be held pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), **on August 12, 2013, at 9:00 a.m.**, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia 23233. You may be represented by an attorney at the conference. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 *et seq.* of the Code.

The Special Conference Committee ("Committee"), which is comprised of at least two members of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board"), will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia.

Specifically:

1. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing ("Regulations") in that during the course of your employment with MCV Hospital of the VCU Health System, Richmond, Virginia, on or about November 25, 2012:

a. After obtaining an order to restrain Patient A, a bilateral amputee, you failed to assess the patient every 15 minutes in order to determine the appropriateness of continued restraint; you left the patient without appropriate supervision; you refused to allow him to eat when he wanted to use his hand to feed himself; and you failed to reassess the patient for possible removal of the restraints when he requested to have one arm free to feed himself.

b. You left the floor for during your shift to attend to a personal matter without ensuring adequate coverage of your four assigned patients.

2. You may have violated § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) of the Regulations in that:

a. During the course of your employment with MCV Hospital, on or about November 25, 2012, you failed to clock out when you left the floor during your shift, thus falsifying your record of time worked.

b. On an application for employment with Central State Hospital, dated January 29, 2013, you indicated that your reason for leaving MCV Hospital was "family circumstances/responsibilities," when, in fact, your employment with MCV Hospital was terminated on December 4, 2012 due, in part, to the incidents described in Allegation 1.

Please see Attachment I for the name of the patient referred to above.

In its deliberations, the Committee may use the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing>. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #90-7. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 367-4515.

After the informal conference, the Committee is authorized by § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code to take any of the following actions:

- If the Committee finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, the Committee shall notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice nursing in the Commonwealth;
- The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and subject to such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate;
- The Committee may reprimand you;
- The Committee may impose a monetary penalty.

Further, the Committee may refer the case to the Board of Nursing or a panel thereof for a formal hearing. If the Committee is of the opinion that suspension or revocation may be justified, the Committee may offer you a Consent Order for suspension or revocation in lieu of a formal hearing.

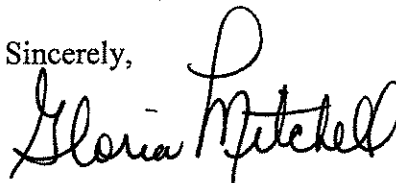
If you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Committee may proceed to hear the case in your absence and may take any of the actions outlined above. At least ten days prior to the scheduled date of the conference, please inform this office at (804) 367-4634, or in writing at the address listed above, of your telephone number and whether you intend to appear at the informal conference.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the Committee to consider to the Department of Health Professions, Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, by August 7, 2013. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You have the right to the information on which the Board will rely in making its decision. Therefore, I have enclosed a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee and will be considered by the Committee when discussing any allegations with you and when deliberating on your case. **These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, which you may be required to claim at the post office. Please bring these documents with you to the informal conference.**

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of nursing and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice, can be found on the Internet at <http://leg1.state.va.us>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

Sincerely,



Gloria D. Mitchell, R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A.
Deputy Executive Director, Discipline

GDM/sts

Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Special Conference Committee Members
Kelli Moss, Senior Investigator (Case no. 148156)