

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

**IN RE: VICTORIA CROSS, R.N.
 License No.: 0001-214967**

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) met on August 12, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Victoria Cross, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Cross was present and was not represented by legal counsel.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Victoria Cross, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-214967 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on August 19, 2008. Said license is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2013. She also holds a license to practice professional nursing in the State of New York. Her declared primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated July 3, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Cross notifying her that an informal conference would be held on August 12, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 1430 Saginaw Bay Court, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Notice was also sent to 4113 Rainbow Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456, a secondary address.
3. Between March 2012 and March 2013, by her own admission, Ms. Cross fraudulently obtained or attempted to obtain Phentermine (Schedule IV), Topamax (topiramate, Schedule IV), Ambien

(zolpidem tartrate, Schedule IV), and Lunesta (eszopiclone, Schedule IV) by either presenting a prescription forged by another person or by forging and presenting prescriptions herself, using the names of several physicians as the prescribers without the physicians' knowledge or consent.

4. The physicians whose names Ms. Cross used were employed at Sentara Virginia Beach hospital, where Ms. Cross was also employed. Her employment with Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital was terminated on March 26, 2013, as a result of her forging prescriptions. There are no criminal charges pending against her.

5. Ms. Cross stated at the informal conference that she obtained the drugs because had suffered from insomnia for almost two years and was attempting to self-medicate when medications prescribed by her primary care physician did not work. She also stated that during this time, she was working approximately 70 hours per week for two different employers. According to Ms. Cross, she last took sleep medication in March 2013 and she last took Phentermine in April 2013.

6. Ms. Cross stated that she currently takes only Welbutrin and Pristiq. She is employed by American Mobile travel nurse agency and is on a 13-week assignment, working only three shifts per week, for a total of 36 hours, at New York University. Her employer is not aware of the allegations before the Board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Committee hereby ORDERS as follows:

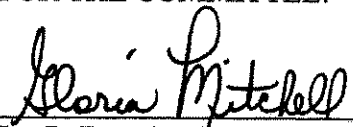
1. Victoria Cross, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.

2. Ms. Cross 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 §§ 2.2-4023 and 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 public record and shall be made available for public inspection or copying on request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Cross may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on October 7, 2013, notify Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that 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 COMMITTEE:


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

ENTERED: September 4, 2013

This Order shall become final on October 7, 2013, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing