

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE:

DEBRA A. ABEL, L.P.N.

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Debra A. Abel, L.P.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Abel's license to practice practical nursing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Debra A. Abel, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-024951 to practice practical nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on May 22, 1978. Said license expired on February 28, 2007, was renewed on July 26, 2007, and is currently set to expire on February 28, 2009.
2. During the course of her employment with Virginia Cardiovascular Consultants ("VCC"), Fredericksburg, Virginia, Ms. Abel practiced as a practical nurse from March 1, 2007 through July 18, 2007 without a license. Ms. Abel was then placed on administrative leave from VCC.
3. During the course of her employment with VCC, Ms. Abel admitted that she had a problem with prescription pain medication use and that in the weeks prior to her leave from VCC, she had been taking approximately 10-15 Lorcet (hydrocodone and acetaminophen, Class III) and 10 tramadol per day.
4. On August 13, 2007, Ms. Abel signed a participation contract with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"). On October 29, 2007, Ms. Abel signed a Recovery Monitoring Contract with HPIP. Ms. Abel has not practiced nursing since she was placed on administrative leave in July of 2007.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of §§ 54.1-3007(3), 54.1-3008(A)(2) and 54.1-3011(C) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").
2. Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

CONSENT

Debra A. Abel, by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. Ms. Abel has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. Ms. Abel acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;
3. Ms. Abel acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact finding conference before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;
4. Ms. Abel waives all such right to an informal conference;
5. Ms. Abel admits to the Findings of Fact contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;
6. Ms. Abel consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice practical nursing in Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Debra A. Abel, L.P.N., shall pay a MONETARY PENALTY of \$300.00 to the Board within sixty (60) days of the entry of this Order.
2. The Board shall TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION at this time contingent expressly on Ms. Abel's continued compliance with the following terms and conditions:
 - a. Ms. Abel shall comply with all terms and conditions of her Recovery Monitoring Contract with HPIP for the period specified in the contract.

b. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for revoking the license of Debra A. Abel, L.P.N., and an administrative proceeding shall be held to decide whether her license should be revoked. Ms. Abel shall be noticed to appear before the Board at such time as the Board is notified that:

i. Ms. Abel is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of the HPIP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPIP;

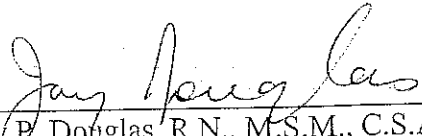
ii. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegations against Ms. Abel involving a violation of law or regulation or any term or condition of this Order; or

iii. Ms. Abel has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPIP. However, upon receipt of Ms. Abel's participation in and compliance with the HPIP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Abel's appearance before the Board and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

3. Ms. Abel shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a practical 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 upon request.

FOR THE BOARD


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

ENTERED: July 21ST, 2008

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

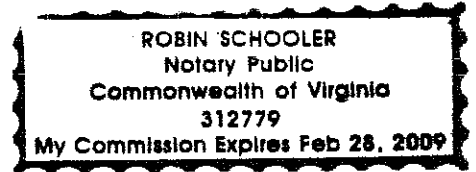
Debra A. Abel LPN
Debra A. Abel, L.P.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF Spotsylvania, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Robin Schooler, a Notary Public, this 14 day of July, 2008.

My commission expires 02-28-09.

Registration Number 312779.



Robin Schooler
NOTARY PUBLIC

Certified True Copy

By dgraham
Virginia Board of Nursing