

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: KATHERINE WATSON, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-063513

ORDER

Pursuant to §§ 2.2-4020, 54.1-110 and 54.1-2400(11) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a formal administrative hearing was held before a panel of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on December 9, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Katherine Watson, L.P.N., may have violated certain terms and conditions imposed on her, as set forth in the Order of the Board entered on August 2, 2012. The case was presented by Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Watson was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. The proceedings were recorded by a certified court reporter.

Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the Board adopted the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Katherine Watson was issued License No. 0002-063513 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on October 15, 2012. Said license was indefinitely suspended by Order of the Board entered on August 2, 2012 ("Board's Order"). This suspension was stayed contingent upon terms and conditions imposed by the Board's Order. Ms. Watson's primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. Based upon the representations of Cynthia E. Gaines, Adjudication Specialist, and Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 1, the Notice of Formal Hearing and Affidavit of Mailing, the presiding officer ruled that adequate notice was provided to the respondent and the hearing proceeded in her absence.

3. On July 31, 2013, the Board indefinitely suspended Ms. Watson's license due to her dismissal from the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP").
4. Term 5(a) of the Board's Order entered August 2, 2012, required Ms. Watson to comply with all terms and conditions specified by the HPMP.
 - a. Ms. Watson entered into a Participation Contract with the HPMP on April 10, 2012, and signed a Recovery Monitoring Contract on July 16, 2012.
 - b. Ms. Watson failed to make contact with her HPMP case manager for the months of December 2012, January 2013 and February 2013, she failed to attend therapy with her counselor in December 2012, and attended only one session on December 4, 2012, and March 4, 2013.
5. Ms. Watson reported to the investigator for the Department of Health Professions that she is in a domestic violence protection program through the United States Marshal Service, and that she has a new name and social security number, and is currently living in Pennsylvania.
6. Ms. Watson provided no evidence that she is, in fact, in a witness protection program.
7. Ms. Watson's probation officer reported she was not aware of Ms. Watson's move to Pennsylvania or her participation in a federal witness protection program.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of Term 5(a) of the Board's Order entered August 2, 2012.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. License No. 0002-063513 issued to Katherine Watson, to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby CONTINUED on INDEFINITE SUSPENSION for a period of not less than two years.

2. The license of Ms. Watson will be recorded as SUSPENDED and no longer current. Should Ms. Watson seek reinstatement of her license consistent with this Order, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of her license prior to issuance of her license to resume practice.

3. At such time as Ms. Watson shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is able to return to the safe and competent practice of practical nursing.

4. This Order shall be applicable to Ms. Watson's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice practical nursing.

5. Ms. Watson is hereby REPRIMANDED.

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.

FOR THE BOARD

Gloria Mitchell
for Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Nursing

January 3, 2014
ENTERED

Certified True Copy

By *draham*
Virginia Board of Nursing

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order in 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, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.