

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Virginia Board of Nursing Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC **Executive Director**

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NOTICE OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE BEFORE AN AGENCY SUBORDINATE

March 27, 2013

Lore R. Stewart, C.N.A. 1245 Stewarts Road Lanexa, VA 23089

CERTIFIED MAIL 71603901984922058251

VA Certificate No.: 1401-121887

Expiration Date:

November 30, 2013

Dear Ms. Stewart:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") will be held on April 23, 2013, at 10:30 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions. Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia. In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), this informal conference will be held before an agency subordinate of the Board of Nursing. This informal conference will be convened as a public meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code. The agency subordinate will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nurse aide practice in Virginia.

Specifically, you may have violated § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-25-100(2)(e) of the Regulations Governing Certified Nurse Aides in that:

- During the course of your employment with Eastern State Hospital, Williamsburg, 1. Virginia, on or about August 21, 2012, you placed a gown over the face of Resident A, an alert but disoriented resident who had become aggressive and started spitting, and you continued trying to provide care to Resident A after she had expressly refused care.
- During the course of your employment with Sentara Healthcare, Norfolk, Virginia, on or about April 6, 2011, on or about July 1, 2011, and on or about September 14, 2011, you failed to

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properly address residents' toileting needs, and you spoke inappropriately to residents and to family members regarding toileting issues.

Please see Attachment A for the name of the resident referenced above.

In its deliberations, the agency subordinate 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 consideration of all information, the agency subordinate may:

- If the agency subordinate finds that there is insufficient evidence to warrant further action or that the charges are without foundation, notify you by mail that your record has been cleared of any charge which might affect your right to practice as a nurse aide in the Commonwealth;
- Recommend findings of fact, conclusions of law and a sanction, to include a reprimand, placing you on probation with terms, suspension or revocation of your certificate, or imposing a monetary penalty pursuant to § 54.1-2401 of the Code.

Further, the agency subordinate may refer this matter for a formal administrative proceeding pursuant to § 2.2-4020 of the Code.

If the agency subordinate finds that there is sufficient evidence to find you in violation of the above charge(s) and § 54.1-3007(8) of the Code, the agency subordinate shall recommend that the Board make a finding of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of patient property, which will be entered in the Virginia Nurse Aide Registry pursuant to 42 CFR § 483.156(b)(2) and (c)(1)(iv)(D) of the Code of Federal Regulations. According to 42 CFR § 483.13(c)(1)(ii)(B), such a finding will prohibit your future employment as a certified nurse aide in any long term care facility that receives Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement.

Board's Review of Agency Subordinate's Recommended Decision

If you appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation and move the case to formal hearing. If you do not agree with the decision of the Board, you have the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board.

If you fail to appear in person or by counsel at the informal conference, the recommendation of the agency subordinate will be presented to a quorum of the Board. The Board may accept or modify the recommendation, or reject the recommendation. The Board's decision regarding the agency subordinate's recommendation is a final order that can only be appealed to circuit court as provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

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You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the agency subordinate in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the agency subordinate, and will be considered when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon 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.

To facilitate this proceeding, you should submit five copies of any documents you wish the agency subordinate to consider to the Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23233, by April 18, 2013. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or email.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, because absent good cause to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on April 23, 2013. A request to continue this proceeding must state in **detail** the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made, in writing, to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12 noon on April 18, 2013. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent critical circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after April 18, 2013, will not be considered.

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.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact this office, at (804) 367-4614.

Sincerely,

Brenda Krohn, R.N., M.S. Deputy Executive Director

BK/fdb Enclosures

cc: Anne G. Joseph, Deputy Director, Administrative Proceedings Division

David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist

Lynne Austin, Senior Investigator (Case No. 146524)

Agency Subordinate