

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: HELEN KPABITEY, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-085093

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 June 17, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Helen Kpabitey, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Kpabitey was present and was not represented by counsel.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Helen Kpabitey, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-085093 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on July 6, 2011. Said license expires on August 31, 2013. Ms. Kpabitey's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated May 24, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Kpabitey notifying her that an informal conference would be held on June 17, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to P. O. Box 4993, Woodbridge, Virginia 22194, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. On March 28, 2012, during the course of her employment with Emeritus at Lake Ridge ("Emeritus"), Woodbridge, Virginia, Ms. Kpabitey failed to complete a Medication Administration Record for Resident A, who is diabetic and was being admitted to Emeritus. Further, she failed to check Resident A's blood glucose level, failed to verify her medication orders and give them to the medication aide, and

failed to notify the oncoming shift supervisor that some of the resident's medication orders needed to be clarified.

4. Ms. Kpabitey stated to the Committee that the facility staff was notified that afternoon that the staff physician had been terminated from the facility. They were not told who would cover for the physician if questions arose. Further, the staff was told not to call the director of nursing unless it was an emergency.

5. Ms. Kpabitey stated that she called the rehabilitation facility that discharged the resident three or four times trying to validate the resident's medication, but she did not receive a return call from the physician.

6. On March 29, 2013, the resident was transported to the hospital for hyperglycemia due to not receiving her medications the evening before.

7. On April 6, 2012, Ms. Kpabitey's employment with Emeritus was terminated.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(5) of the Code.

ORDER


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

1. Helen Kpabitey, L.P.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Kpabitey 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 on request.

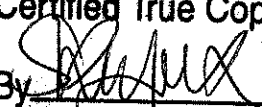
Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Kpabitey may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on August 19, 2013, notify Jay P. Douglas, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. 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: July 16, 2013

This Order shall become final on August 19, 2013 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing