

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:        RACHAEL COMBS, L.P.N.**  
**License No.: 0002-077620**

**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 5, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Rachael Combs, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing nursing practice in Virginia. Ms. Combs was present and was represented by Benjamin Rand, Esq.

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Rachael Combs, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-077620 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia on February 21, 2008. Said license expires on July 31, 2014. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. By letter dated March 11, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Combs notifying her that an informal conference would be held on April 3, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 520 Warwickshire Court, Newport News, Virginia, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing. The Board granted the continuance requested by Ms. Combs' legal counsel. By letter dated April 2, 2013, the Board notified Ms. Combs that an informal conference would be held on June 5, 2013. The letter was sent by certified and first class mail to 520 Warwickshire Court, Newport News, Virginia, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.
3. During the course of her employment with Patriots Colony, Williamsburg, Virginia, on July 19-20, 2012, from 2300 to 0430, by her own admission, Ms. Combs falsely documented that care was provided to

two residents at times that neither she nor any other staff member entered the residents' rooms. At 0430, one resident was found injured on the floor and required treatment. Ms. Combs acknowledged the patient neglect and stated that at the time she was conducting a chart review in preparation for an upcoming inspection.

4. Due to this incident, Ms. Combs' four and one-half years of employment with Patriots Colony was terminated. Ms. Combs had no other standard of care issues while employed at Patriots Colony.

5. Ms. Combs stated at the informal conference that her current employer knows that she is attending the conference. Moreover, Ms. Combs expressed remorse for her actions, and that she had learned from her mistakes. Ms. Combs submitted several letters of reference to the Department of Health Professions investigator.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Finding of Fact No. 3 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) of the Code and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

### **ORDER**

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

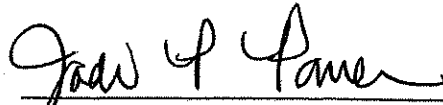
1. Rachael Combs, L.P.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Combs shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a practical nurse commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

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. Combs may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on July 22, 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.

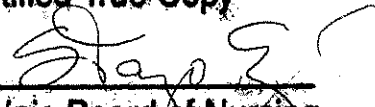
FOR THE COMMITTEE:

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

ENTERED: June 19, 2013

This Order shall become final on July 22, 2013 unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board of Nursing