

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: JULIA K. CASH, R.N.

ORDER

Pursuant to § 2.2-4019, § 2.2-4021 and § 54.1-3010 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, a Special Conference Committee of the Board of Nursing met on February 7, 2002, in Henrico County, Virginia, to receive and act upon evidence that Julia K. Cash, R.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in Virginia. Ms. Cash was present and was not represented by counsel.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Julia K. Cash, R.N., holds License No. 0001-143044 issued by the Virginia Board of Nursing.
2. Pursuant to an Order entered August 25, 1998, disciplinary proceedings against the license of Ms. Cash were continued generally contingent upon her compliance with certain terms and conditions, to include participation and compliance with the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program ("HPIP"). Ms. Cash failed to comply with the terms and conditions of the Order in that during July and September 2001, she had several positive drug screens. In September 2001, Ms. Cash enrolled in an intensive outpatient treatment program at Rockingham Memorial Hospital. On or about September 18, 2001, she tested positive for barbiturates and admitted administering one Fiorinal tablet. Subsequently, she was transferred to a residential treatment program at Harrison House.

3. During the course of her employment with Westminster Canterbury of the Blue Ridge, Charlottesville, Virginia:

- a) On or about July 12, 2001, staff observed a personality change, noted that Ms. Cash was easily upset at minor changes in her routine, and that she appeared disheveled. Virginia Monitoring, Inc., was notified and she was instructed to have a urine drug screen performed, which tested positive for opiates.
- b) A subsequent medical records review revealed that Ms. Cash documented administration of one dose of three (3) Percocet tablets (oxycodone/acetaminophen, Schedule II) to Resident A; however, this resident was ordered only one Percocet tablet and regularly received only one tablet from all other nurses on the 3-11 shift. Further, Resident A was alert and oriented and reported receiving only one tablet each dose.
- c) On or about July 23, 2001, her employment was terminated for misappropriation of patient property.
- d) Ms. Cash falsified her application for employment dated February 27, 2001, in that she failed to list her employment with Sunnyside Retirement Community and Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center and reasons for leaving.

4. On or about September 29, 2000, Ms. Cash's employment was terminated with Sunnyside Retirement Community, Harrisonburg, Virginia, due to numerous narcotic medication/documentation errors, between August 10, 2000 and September 27, 2000.

5. During the course of her employment with the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center ("WWRC"), Fishersville, Virginia:

- a) Between July 2, 1997 and August 2, 1997, Ms. Cash diverted various amounts of Ritalin (methylphenidate hydrochloride, Schedule II) and Dexedrine

(dextroamphetamine, Schedule II) for her personal and unauthorized use, from outpatient student prescriptions, to include the prescriptions belonging to Students A-H. She accomplished this diversion by entering the patient prescription stocks maintained on the student health unit, removing the drugs, and failing to chart any administration of these medications.

- b) By her own admission, Ms. Cash has little memory of the spring and summer of 1997, as she was over-medicated on prescribed Xanax (alprazolam, Schedule IV), and acknowledged that she was impaired while on duty.
- c) On July 5, 1997, Ms. Cash was counseled regarding her lethargic appearance and slurred speech at the end of her shift on July 2, 1997. Staff noted on other occasions that she was loud, evidenced scattered thinking, was unable to focus or concentrate, and had disjointed behavior. The pharmacist-in-charge at WWRC noted that Ms. Cash seemed to have very erratic, hyper behavior while on duty; and Ms. Cash informed her that she was self-administering Ritalin prescribed for her son.
- d) On or about August 4, 1997, her employment was terminated for suspicion of drug diversion.

6. Between December 1996, and August 1997, Ms. Cash received prescriptions for oxycodone (Schedule II), hydrocodone (Schedule III), and Tylenol #3 (Schedule III) from four (4) physicians concomitantly. Between January 1997 and July 1997, she received Valium (diazepam, Schedule IV), and alprazolam, from two (2) physicians concurrently.

7. During the course of her employment with Continuing Care, Harrisonburg, Virginia, between August 1996 and December 1996, Ms. Cash was counseled on numerous occasions for poor documentation and disorganization.

8. Nancy Hickman, Virginia Monitoring, Inc., Case Manager, stated to the Committee that Ms. Cash completed treatment at Harrison House, is in the aftercare program, and has received favorable reports. Ms. Hickman also stated that Ms. Cash is not completely in compliance with her contract in that she has failed to have meeting logs signed and attend Caduceus meetings. She indicated that Ms. Cash's contract would be revised.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that the above Findings of Fact constitute a violation of Term Numbers 1 and 2 of the Order entered August 25, 1998, § 54.1-3007(2), (3), (5), (6) and (8) of the Code, and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(c) and (e) of the Regulations of the Board of Nursing.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, hereby ORDERS that Julia K. Cash, R.N., who holds License No. 0001-143044 to practice professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, be and hereby is, REPRIMANDED. It is further ORDERED that Ms. Cash shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPIP.

Any violation of the terms and conditions of the HPIP or any of the terms and conditions stated in this Order, shall be reason for revoking the license of Ms. Cash and she shall be noticed to appear at an administrative hearing at such time as the Board is notified that:

- a) She is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPIP, or has been terminated from participation in the HPIP, or
- b) She has successfully completed the above-referenced period of participation in the HPIP. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Cash's participation in and compliance with the HPIP, the Committee, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Cash's appearance before

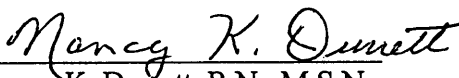
the Committee, relating to the HPIP contract only, and conduct an administrative review of this matter.

The Board expects Julia K. Cash, R.N., to maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse commensurate with the requirements of Title 54.1, Chapter 30, of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

Pursuant to § 2.2-4023 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, 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.

If Ms. Cash does not consent to the Committee's decision and desires a hearing before the Board or a panel thereof, she shall notify Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, in writing at 6606 West Broad Street, Fourth Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717 within thirty-three (33) days from the date of entry of this Order. This Order shall become final upon the expiration of the thirty-three day period unless a request for a formal hearing is received within such time. Upon receiving timely request for a hearing, the Board or a panel thereof shall then proceed with a hearing as provided in § 2.2-4020 and § 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

FOR THE BOARD


Nancy K. Durrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

ENTERED: February 14, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a certified true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed on this day to Julia K. Cash, R.N., at 1500 North Coalter Street, Apt E5, Staunton, Virginia 24401.

Nancy K. Duffrett
Nancy K. Duffrett, R.N., M.S.N.
Executive Director for the
Board of Nursing

February 14, 2002
Date

Certified True Copy
By DL | 2/14/02
Virginia Board of Nursing