

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: SIERRA D. HUTCHINSON, L.P.N.
License No.: 0002-073071

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 May 22, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Sierra D. Hutchinson, L.P.N., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing practical nursing practice in Virginia. The case was presented by David W. Kazzie, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division. Howard M. Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal counsel for the Board. Ms. Hutchinson 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. Sierra D. Hutchinson, L.P.N., was issued License No. 0002-073071 to practice practical nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on March 5, 2006. Said license expired on September 30, 2012. Ms. Hutchinson's primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Based upon the representations of Mr. Kazzie and Commonwealth's Exhibits #1 and #2, 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. During the course of her employment with Family Transitions', Richmond, Virginia, psycho-social unit, in May 2012, while providing mental health care and support services, to clients of Virginia Supportive Housing, Ms. Hutchinson entered into a sexual relationship with Client A, who suffered from

schizoaffective disorder, bipolar type and polysubstance abuse. Ms. Hutchinson told the Department of Health Professions investigator that she did not believe her sexual relationship with Client A would impact her nursing license as she was employed as a counselor.

4. During her interview with the Department of Health Professions investigator, Ms. Hutchinson admitted to engaging in the relationship with Client A.

5. Ms. Hutchinson's employment with Family Transitions was terminated as a result of the incident.

6. Ms. Hutchinson was hospitalized in a psychiatric care facility in July 2012 following a suicide attempt brought about as a result of her termination by Family Transitions because of the boundary violation.

7. Ms. Hutchinson stated to the investigator for the Department of Health Professions that she had no plans to continue a career in health care or as a practical nurse.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board concludes that 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)(I) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

ORDER

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

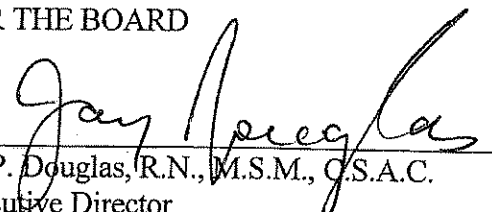
1. The right of Sierra D. Hutchinson, L.P.N., to renew License No. 0002-073071 to practice practical nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby REVOKED.

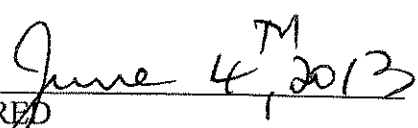
2. The right of Sierra D. Hutchinson, L.P.N., to renew License No. 0002-073071 will be recorded as REVOKED. Pursuant to § 54.1-2408.2 of the Code, should Ms. Hutchinson seek reinstatement of the right to renew her license after three years, she shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement of the right to renew her license prior to the reinstatement of her right to renew

her license to resume practice. The reinstatement of Ms. Hutchinson's right to renew her license shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members at a meeting of the Board.

3. At such time as Ms. Hutchinson shall petition the Board for reinstatement of the right to renew her license, a hearing 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. Hutchinson's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice practical nursing.

FOR THE BOARD

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


ENTERED

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.

Certified True Copy
By 
Virginia Board of Nursing