

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: KIMBERLY ANN HEFFLER, R.N.
License Number: 0001-192328
Case Number: 171213

ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) held an informal conference on December 12, 2016, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Kimberly Ann Heffler, R.N., may have violated certain laws governing the practice of nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Kimberly Ann Heffler, R.N. appeared at this proceeding and was not represented by legal counsel.

NOTICE

By letter dated September 7, 2016, the Board sent a Notice of Informal Conference (“Notice”) to Ms. Heffler notifying her that an informal conference would be held on October 3, 2016. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to the legal address of record on file with the Board. On October 4, 2016, Ms. Heffler notified the Board that her husband had been hospitalized and she requested a continuance, which was granted by the Board. The matter was rescheduled for December 12, 2016.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Kimberly Ann Heffler, R.N., was issued License Number 0001-192328 to practice professional nursing on August 20, 2004, which is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2017. At all times relevant to the findings contained herein, said license was current and active. Her primary state of residence is Virginia.
2. Kimberly Ann Heffler, R.N. violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(5) in that during the course of her employment with Augusta Health, Fishersville, Virginia, on November 12, 2015, she tested positive for oxycodone (C-II), for which she did not have a prescription.
3. Ms. Heffler stated to the Committee that she experienced back pain following a move, and she took oxycodone that had been prescribed for her husband.
4. Ms. Heffler violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(5) in that on March 10, 2016, after being placed on restrictions by her employer, including limited access to narcotic administration, Ms. Heffler obtained and administered a narcotic medication to a patient without authorization of her employer.
5. Ms. Heffler stated to the Committee that she was assigned to a different floor and her co-workers on that floor were not aware of her restriction. Ms. Heffler stated that she could not locate anyone to administer the medication to the patient.
6. Ms. Heffler stated to the Committee that she realizes, after the fact, that she should have contacted the unit supervisor or her unit coordinator to arrange for another nurse to administer the narcotic medication to the patient.
7. On March 15, 2016, Ms. Heffler's employment with Augusta Health was terminated.

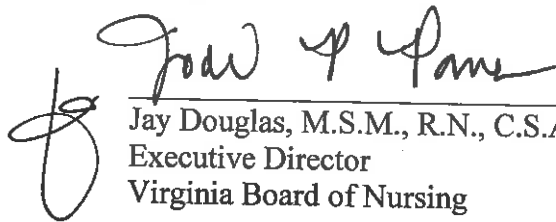
ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Nursing hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Kimberly Ann Heffler, R.N., is REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Heffler shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the practice of professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD


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

Certified True Copy

By 
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED AND MAILED:

December 29, 2016

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2400(10), Ms. Heffler may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on January 31, 2017, notify Jay Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., 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. This Order shall become final on January 31, 2017, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.