

**BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE:       ARLENE FRANCES WHITE, R.M.A.**  
**License Number:   0031-002921**  
**Case Number:      172227**

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**CONSENT ORDER**

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**JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The Virginia Board of Nursing ("Board") and Ms. White, R.M.A., as evidenced by their signatures hereto, in lieu of proceeding to a formal administrative proceeding, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. White's registration to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1.     Arlene Frances White, R.M.A. was issued Registration Number 0031-002921 to practice as a medication aide on April 22, 2009, which is scheduled to expire on April 30, 2017.
2.     Ms. White's registration to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth was summarily suspended by the Board on June 1, 2016.
3.     At all times relevant hereto, Ms. White was registered to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia and was employed at Roselawn Rest Home.
4.     Resident A, a longtime resident of Roselawn Rest Home, slowly began deteriorating in November 2015 and her decline accelerated rapidly in the two weeks prior to her death on December 21, 2015. Between about November 11, 2015, and December 21, 2015, Resident A developed sixteen Category 2 and 3 skin tears and Stage 3-4 pressure ulcers.

5. Ms. White violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) and 18 VAC 90-60-120(2)(f) of the Regulations Governing the Registration of Medication Aides (“Regulations”) in that during the course of her employment with Roselawn Rest Home, Castlewood, Virginia:

a. In November and December 2015, Ms. White failed to provide or obtain appropriate medical care for Resident A, who was experiencing severe skin breakdowns and tears, fall-related wounds, disorientation, and altered mental status.

b. In or about November and December 2015, Ms. White failed to administer medications in accordance with physician’s orders and consistent with the standards of practice in that she administered multiple topical medications and dressings to Resident A without a physician’s order, after the physician had ordered only an over-the-counter cream for the resident.

c. In November and December 2015, Ms. White failed to notify the Virginia Department of Social Services that Resident A was experiencing pressure ulcers and serious skin breakdowns.

6. Ms. White violated Virginia Code § 54.1-3007(2), (5), and (8) and 18 VAC 90-60-120(2)(a) and (f) of the Regulations in that in November and December 2015, she performed wound care on Resident A, including treating and medicating wounds without a physician’s order.

7. Ms. White and another medication aide in the facility treated Resident A with a combination of bandaging and applying Silvadene ointment to the affected areas, although neither was licensed to do so and there was no order for it. Both Ms. White and the other medication aide reported that Resident A consistently refused to go to the hospital. However, Resident A was showing signs of confusion as early as November 6, 2015, and her progress notes included multiple references to her exhibiting signs of confusion.

8. On the afternoon of December 21, 2015, Resident A was transported to the Russell County Medical Center in extremely critical condition after staff at the facility noted her to be unresponsive. Upon arrival, she was diagnosed with dehydration, malnourishment, severe sepsis, severe hypoxia, severe hypotension, and kidney failure. She was also suffering from an extensive series of severe skin tears and pressure ulcers. The top layer of skin was missing from large sections of Resident A's body. A wound care nurse at the hospital reported that several of the bandages on Resident A were so dried and crusted they had to be soaked before removal. Another health-care worker at the hospital stated to the licensing inspector that Resident A's condition "did not develop overnight and that what looked like to him to be neglect had been going on for weeks." Resident A died within hours of her hospital arrival.

### CONSENT

Ms. White, R.M.A., by affixing her signature to this Consent Order, agrees to the following:

1. I have been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me or my registration except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-4000 *et seq.*;
3. I acknowledge that I have the following rights, among others: the right to a formal administrative hearing before the Board; the right to representation by counsel; and the right to cross-examine witnesses against me;
4. I waive all right to a formal hearing;
5. I admit to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waive my right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any sanction imposed hereunder in any future judicial or administrative proceeding in which the Board is a party;

6. I consent to the entry of the following Order affecting my right to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

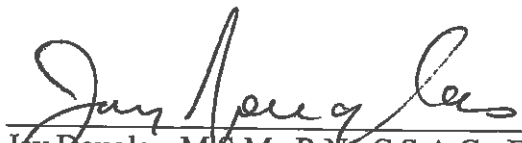
**ORDER**

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

1. The registration of Ms. White to practice as a medication aide in the Commonwealth of Virginia is REVOKED. The registration of Ms. White will be recorded as REVOKED.
2. Pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-2408.2, should Ms. White seek reinstatement of her registration after three years, the reinstatement of Ms. White's registration shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members at a formal administrative proceeding convened by the Board. At such time, the burden shall be on Ms. White to demonstrate that she is safe and competent to return to medication aide practice. Ms. White shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and/or renewal of the registration prior to issuance of the registration to resume practice.

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

ENTERED: June 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

*Arlene White*  
Ms. White, R.M.A.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
COUNTY/CITY OF Russell, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to me, a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at large, on this  
9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

*Amanda Brooke Sargent*  
Notary Public

My commission expires:

June 30, 2017

Registration No.:

7581749

AMANDA BROOKE SARGENT  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
REGISTRATION # 7581749  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES  
6/30/17

Certified True Copy

By *dgraham*  
Virginia Board Of Nursing