

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: DENISE SWEDA, R.N.
License No.: 0001-072666

CONSENT ORDER

The Virginia Board of Nursing (“Board”) and Denise Sweda, R.N., as evidenced by her signature hereto, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Ms. Sweda’s license to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

The Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Denise Sweda, R.N., was issued License No. 0001-072666 to practice professional nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on March 30, 1979. Said license is set to expire on October 31, 2014. Ms. Sweda’s primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. On February 17, 2013, during the course of her employment with the Medical College of Virginia, VCU Health System, Richmond, Virginia, Ms. Sweda administered a “high alert/high risk” insulin medication to a new patient on the floor without verifying the order with the charge nurse. Further, Ms. Sweda falsely documented in the patient’s records that the charge nurse had verified the dosage amount.

3. The dosage of insulin administered to the patient resulted in a drop in his glucose level and subsequently rendered him unconscious.

4. Ms. Sweda stated that she could not find the charge nurse prior to administering the insulin to the patient. Ms. Sweda stated that since the charge nurse saw the order for the insulin on the printer, the charge nurse would know the drug and dosage to be administered to the patient; therefore, she documented that the charge nurse had verified the patient’s medication.

5. On February 26, 2013, Ms. Sweda’s employment was terminated due to her falsification of the patient’s medical record.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Finding of Fact No. 2 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(2), (5) and (8) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended (“Code”), and 18 VAC 90-20-300(A)(2)(e) and (f) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Nursing.

CONSENT

Denise Sweda, R.N., by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

1. She has been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document;
2. She acknowledges that without her consent, no legal action can be taken against her except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000(A) *et seq.* of the Code;
3. She acknowledges that she has the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact finding conference before the Board, the right to reasonable notice of said hearing, the right to representation by counsel, and the right to cross-examine witnesses against her;
4. She waives all such right to an informal conference;
5. She admits to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waives her right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in any subsequent proceeding before the Board;
6. She consents to the entry of the following Order affecting her right to practice professional nursing in Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the Virginia Board of Nursing, effective upon entry of this Order, and in lieu of further proceedings, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Denise Sweda, R.N., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. Ms. Sweda shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional 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 upon request.

FOR THE BOARD

for *Gloria Mitchell*
Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.
Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: *December 16, 2013*

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Denise Sweda RN
Denise Sweda, R.N.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY/CITY OF *Prince George*, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, *Deborah W Smith*, a Notary Public, this *9th* day of *December*, 20*13*.

My commission expires *Sept. 30, 2017*.

Registration Number *305259*.

Deborah W Smith
NOTARY PUBLIC

