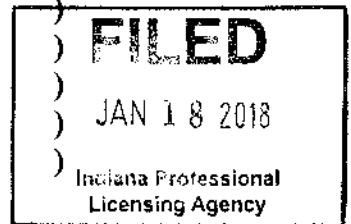


BEFORE THE INDIANA STATE
BOARD OF NURSING
CAUSE NUMBER: 2018 NB 0031

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION OF:)

TIFFANY B. SWEARINGEN, R. N.,)

LICENSE NO: 28209707A)



DECISION ON APPLICATION TO RENEW LICENSE

The Indiana State Board of Nursing (“Board”) requested that Tiffany Swearingen (“Applicant”) personally appear before board member India Owens, M.S.N, R.N., CEN, NE-BC, FAEN, on December 7, 2017, in Room C of the Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. She came for the purpose of providing information and answering questions concerning her application to renew her license as a nurse.

The Applicant appeared in person.

After interviewing the Applicant, board member Owens recommended to the full Board that the Applicant’s license be renewed on probation.

The Board, after considering Owens’s recommendation and reviewing its file in this matter, voted 8 to 0 on December 14, 2017 to issue the following decision:

FACTS

1. The Applicant, who resides at 7467 Woodlea Court, Apt. 1017, Indianapolis, Indiana 46256, submitted an application to the Board to renew her license as a nurse.

2. In her renewal application, the Applicant revealed the following. On July 31, 2017, law enforcement officers arrested her for operating while intoxicated. On October 13, 2017, the Applicant pled guilty to one count of Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated Endangering a Person as a Class A misdemeanor. The Applicant will serve one year of criminal probation. The Applicant has not yet reported herself to the Indiana State Nurses Assistance Program ("ISNAP") for possible monitoring. Approximately every two weeks, the Applicant attends an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. She states a date of sobriety of July 31, 2017, the day of her arrest. She has also arranged to be evaluated by Life Recovery.

3. The Applicant has demonstrated to the Board that she may be able to practice competently and safely if she complies with the probationary terms set out below. She agrees to the terms of probation.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Based upon the foregoing, the Board renews the license of the Applicant pursuant to Ind. Code § 25-1-5-4(g)(5) as follows:

1. The Applicant's license as a registered nurse is renewed on **INDEFINITE PROBATION**. The Applicant may petition to have the probationary order withdrawn after she completes her criminal matter, including serving any sentence or probationary period required of her by the trial court, and after she completes one year of complete and continuous compliance with her recovery monitoring agreement with ISNAP.

2. The Applicant's practice as a nurse shall be governed by the following **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**.

a) The Applicant must keep the Board apprised of the following information in writing and update it as necessary.

1. The Applicant's current home address, mailing address, e-mail address and residential telephone number.
2. The Applicant's place of employment, employment telephone number, employment e-mail address and name of supervisor.

b) The Applicant shall provide a copy of all Board orders, including this one, imposing discipline or limiting practice to any nursing employer who shall sign and return a copy of such orders to the Board within ten (10) days of employment or receipt of the Order.

c) The Applicant shall cause the person evaluating her nursing practice to submit quarterly reports to the Board indicating her professional competence, sense of responsibility, work habits, mental attitude and ability to work with others. If the Applicant is unemployed as a nurse, she must submit quarterly reports to the Board on her personal circumstances.

d) The Applicant shall report to ISNAP, will sign a Recovery Monitoring Agreement ("RMA") and comply with the terms of her RMA with ISNAP.

e) The Applicant shall complete six (6) continuing education units as follows: six (6) units in self-care for nurses, within six months of the date of this order.

f) The Applicant shall report any future arrests, substance abuse relapses, or terminations of employment directly to the Board immediately.

g) The Applicant shall comply with all statutes and rules regulating the practice of nursing and report any future arrests to the Board.

3. The failure of the Applicant to comply with the terms of this decision may subject her to a show cause hearing and the imposition of further sanctions, including emergency suspension of her license.

SO ORDERED, this 18th day of January 2018.

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Maureen Bennett
for Kim Cooper, R.N.
Board President
Indiana State Board of Nursing

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NOTICE OF RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REVIEW OF THIS DECISION

You may petition for review of this decision under Ind. Code § 4-21.5-3-7. The petition must be filed with the Indiana State Board of Nursing in writing, identifying the reasons for review and demonstrating that you have been aggrieved or adversely affected by the Board's decision. The petition for review must be filed no later than eighteen days from the issuance of this decision unless such date is a Saturday, a Sunday, a legal holiday under state statute or a day the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency's offices are closed during regular business hours in which case the deadline would be the first day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, a legal holiday under state statute or a day the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency's offices are closed during regular business hours.

If your petition for review is timely filed and review granted, you will receive notification of an administrative hearing. You or your representative must be present at that hearing. You have the right to be represented by an attorney at your own expense. A deputy attorney general may be present to represent the state of Indiana. As petitioner, you will have the burden of proving that the Board's decision is incorrect.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the "Decision on Application to Renew License" has been duly served upon:

Tiffany B. Swearingen, R. N.
7467 Woodlea Court, Apt 1017
Indianapolis, IN 46256
Service by U.S. Mail

Ben T. Caughey, Esq.
828 East 64th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46220
Service by U.S. Mail

1.18.2019
Date


Lisa Chapman, Litigation Specialist

Indiana State Board of Nursing
Indiana Government Center South
402 West Washington St., Room W072
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 317-234-2043
Fax: 317-233-4236
Email: pla2@pla.in.gov

Explanation of Service Methods

Personal Service: by delivering a true copy of the aforesaid document(s) personally.

Service by U.S. Mail: by serving a true copy of the aforesaid document(s) by First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid.

Service by Email: by sending a true copy of the aforesaid document(s) to the individual's electronic mail address.