| IN THE MATTER OF | * | BEFORE THE MARYLAND |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | * | |
| SHEILA ANGEH | * | BOARD OF NURSING |
| | * | |
| License Number: R248149 | * | OAG CASE No. 21 – BP - 048 |
| | * | |

ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE PURSUANT TO SECTION 10-226(e)(2) OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") hereby orders the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** of the Registered Nurse license, license number **R248149**, of **SHEILA ANGEH** (the "Respondent"), in the State of Maryland. The Board takes this action pursuant to the authority of Maryland Code Ann., State Government Article ("SG") § 10-226 (c) (2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), which provides:

A unit may order summarily the suspension of a license if the unit:

- (i) finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action; and
- (ii) promptly gives the licensee:
- 1. Written notice of the suspension, the finding and the reasons that support the finding; and
- 2. An opportunity to be heard.

The Board has reason, as set forth below, to find that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action under SG § 10-226 (c) (2).

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS AND REASONS IN SUPPORT OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Based on investigatory information obtained by, received by, made known to and available to the Board, the Board has reason to believe that the following facts are true:

1. On April 26, 2021, the Respondent was issued a Registered Nurse (RN) license in the State of Maryland. The Respondent's RN license has an "active-compact" status and is due to expire on June 28, 2022.

MARYLAND APPLICATION FOR EXAM OF LPN LICENSE ("LPN APPLICATION")

- On or about October 24, 2016, the Respondent submitted an on-line LPN Application.
 The Respondent indicated on the LPN Application that she graduated on June 28, 2013 from LPN School.
- 3. The Respondent affirmed and agreed to the following statement: "I affirm that the contents of this document are accurate to the best of my knowledge." The Respondent was advised that "providing false or misleading information may result in disciplinary action by the Board, and may result in denial of licensure."

LPN SCHOOL

4. On July 21, 2010, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a Consent Order, ordering that [LPN School] be placed on Conditional Provisional Approval for not less than one (1) year, subject to terms and conditions. The Consent Order was signed by LPN School's Program Director ("Director").

The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct identified herein are intended to provide the Respondent with reasonable notice of the asserted facts. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent, a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent.

- 5. On May 15, 2012, the Virginia Board of Nursing approved a Consent Order, signed by Director. The May 15, 2012 Consent Order orders that:
 - i. [LPN School's] approval to operate a practical nursing education program in Virginia is WITHDRAWN. [LPN School] shall cease operations no later than June 30, 2013, when all students shall either have graduated or transferred to an approved program.
 - ii. [LPN School] shall not admit any new or transfer students.

THE RESPONDENT'S LPN SCHOOL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

6. The Official Transcript, signed by Executive Program Director ("Director") and dated June 28, 2013, provides the following information:

| FIRST QUARTER | | THIRD QUARTER | THIRD QUARTER | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| From: 01/23/2012 To: 03/23/2012 | | From: 07/23/2012 To 11/09/2012 | | | | |
| Course Description Contact Hours | | Course Description Contact Hours | | | | |
| Basic Computer | 30 | Med/Surg I | 120 | | | |
| Medical Terminology | 60 | Med/Surg II | 120 | | | |
| Anatomy and Physiology | 180 | Med/Surg Clinical | 200 | | | |
| Total Contact Hours Required 270 | | Med/Surg Lab | 40 | | | |
| | | Geriatrics Theory | 30 | | | |
| | | Geriatrics Clinical | 40 | | | |
| | | Total Contact Hours Required | 550 | | | |
| SECOND QUARTER FOURTH QUARTE | | FOURTH QUARTER | | | | |
| From: 03/26/2012 To: 07/20/2012 | | From: 11/12/2012 To: 06/28/2013 | From: 11/12/2012 To: 06/28/2013 | | | |
| Course Description Contact Hours | | Course Description Contact Hours | | | | |
| Diet and Nutrition | 60 | Pediatric Nursing | 90 | | | |
| Pharmacology | 120 | Pediatric Nursing Clinical | 40 | | | |
| Nursing Fundamentals | 210 | Maternity Nursing | 90 | | | |
| Nursing Fundamentals Lab | 60 | Maternity Clinical | 40 | | | |
| Nursing Fundamentals Clinical | 40 | Mental Health Nursing | 30 | | | |
| Total Contact Hours | 490 | Mental Health Clinical | 40 | | | |
| | | Professional Development & | | | | |
| | | NCLEX Review | 60 | | | |
| | | Total Contact Hours Required | 390 | | | |

Summary of Clinical Agencies/Facilities and dates for each experience

| Summary of Chinear Agencies/Facilities and dates for each experience | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|-------|----------|-----|-------------|--|--|
| Clinical Courses | Clinical Agency | Clinical | Start | Clinical | End | Total Hours | | |
| | | Date | | Date | | | | |
| Nsg. Fundamentals | [Site A] | 03/19/12 | | 03/23/12 | | 40 | | |
| Medical-Surgical | [Sites A, B, C] | 09/10/12 | | 10/12/12 | | 200 | | |
| Nsg. | | | | | | | | |
| Geriatrics Nsg. | [Site D] | 10/22/12 | | 10/26/12 | | 40 | | |
| Maternity Nsg. | [Site E] | 02/04/13 | | 02/08/13 | | 40 | | |
| Pediatrics Nsg. | [Site E] | 02/25/13 | | 03/01/13 | | 40 | | |
| Mental Health Nsg. | [Site F] | 03/18/13 | | 03/22/13 | | 40 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

THE BOARD'S INVESTIGATION

- On August 5, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted the General Counsel for Clinical Sites B, C and D, requesting information on any agreements with LPN School. On August 5, 2021, the General Counsel responded by email, stating "I searched our contracts database and do not find any contracts with [LPN School]. Additionally, as a skilled nursing facility, I do not believe we would have hosted clinicals for surgical nursing."
- 8. On August 6, 2021, a Board Investigator contacted Clinical Site E's Executive Director by phone. Executive Director stated that Clinical Site E does not offer OB/GYN or pediatric care and that the program offers services to troubled teens, there are no nurses on staff and the program does not offer any medical services.
- 9. On August 25, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by email that Clinical Site F "does not have any affiliation or contracts with any nursing institute for any clinical hours."
- In a letter dated September 8, 2021, the Board's staff was notified by Clinical Site A, "we regret to inform you that after searching our records, we were unable to locate any school agreement for clinical rotations with [LPN School]."
- 11. On September 9, 2021, the Respondent was interviewed under oath and provided the following information:
 - i. She was enrolled in another school in DC which was closing, was told about another school by other students that offered "review and crash programs" and was introduced to Individual.
 - ii. She met with Individual, who informed her he was worked in collaboration with LPN School. She met with him at a house in Bowie, Maryland. The basement of the house was set up as a classroom.
 - iii. Individual requested cash payment of \$5500 and she paid on a payment plan.
 - iv. She started classes in July 2016. There was a mixture of subjects and no particular sequence to what was taught. Classes were three to four days a week and classes had LPN and RN students. Classes lasted about four months and were conducted by Individual and another instructor.

- v. She took a comprehensive exam and was told she passed the exam and was told to
 - vi. She received a diploma from LPN School, signed by Director.²

register with the board for the exam.

- vii. She was given LPN School transcript to submit to the Board. Her husband questioned why she was given the transcript because most schools will submit the transcript directly.
- viii. The transcript listed dates and clinical sites that she did not attend and she asked about the information and was told to take the exam and come back later to do the clinicals. She was asked to pay an additional \$4000 to complete the clinicals.
 - ix. Individual did not respond to follow up requests to complete clinicals before taking the exam. She never took the NCLEX because the information was incorrect.
 - x. [Transcript on file with the Board reviewed] She stated the dates were wrong and she never attended any of the clinicals listed. She took it back to Individual for corrections but he never changed it. She never saw or had contact with Director. All her interactions were with Individual.
 - xi. [LPN Application reviewed] She completed the application on line and Individual gave her the school code to complete the application. She acknowledged filling out the application and confirmed she entered the year of graduation using the date on the transcript, with the understanding that Individual would make corrections and resubmit to the Board.
- xii. She decided to "let go of everything and start afresh."
- xiii. She is currently working at Hospital as a RN. ³

DISCUSSION

12. The Respondent knowingly provided false information on her Maryland LPN application including, that she graduated from LPN School on June 28, 2013. In support of her application, the Respondent knowingly submitted a fraudulent transcript to the Board. The Respondent's admitted hesitancy in taking the NCLEX exam and her questioning of the accuracy of the transcript demonstrates that she was aware that she did not meet the

² On or about July 8, 2021, in the U.S. District Court of Maryland, Director was indicted on charges of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud; Conspiracy to Commit False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters and False Statements Relating to Health Care Matters. According to the Criminal Complaint, Director conspired with two other individuals and submitted false statements relating to health care matters by working together to sell fraudulent transcripts and diplomas that indicate that various individuals completed necessary courses and clinical hours to obtain nursing degrees and coached these unqualified individuals to pass the nursing board exam.

³ The Respondent received a BSN from University on May 10, 2020.

Board's statutory and regulatory requirements, including didactic and clinical training, for LPN licensure by exam.

- The Respondent decided to "let go of everything and start afresh" and never reported the fraudulent activities of LPN School to the Board.
- 14. The Respondent knowingly participated in dishonesty, fraud and deceit in her representation to the Board and her actions reflect poorly on the nursing profession and erodes public confidence in the profession.
- 15. The Respondent holds an active, multi-state Maryland RN license. The Respondent's continued practice poses a serious risk and danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Based on the foregoing investigative findings and reasons, the Board finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action in this case pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226 (c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.).

ORDER

It is hereby:

ORDERED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Nursing by Maryland Code Ann., State Govt. § 10-226 (c)(2) (2021 Repl. Vol.), the Registered Nurse license, license number R248149, of SHEILA ANGEH, in the State of Maryland is hereby SUMMARILY SUSPENDED; and be it further

ORDERED that there will be a Show Cause Hearing on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 10:30 AM before the Board at the Maryland Board of Nursing offices, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215: and be it further

ANGEH, SHEILA: R248149

ORDERED that if, the suspension of the Respondent's license is continued following a

Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent has the right to a full evidentiary hearing before the Board

and a hearing will be scheduled before the Board if the Respondent submits a written request for

an evidentiary hearing to the Board no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Board's

written decision issued after the Show Cause Hearing; and be it further

ORDERED that if the Respondent does not submit a timely written request to the

Board for an evidentiary hearing within 30 days from the date of the Board's written decision

issued after the Show Cause Hearing, the Respondent shall have waived all rights now and in the

future to any hearing on the merits of the summary suspension of the Respondent's license and

the factual allegations contained in this Order for Summary Suspension; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order for Summary Suspension shall remain in effect and the

summary suspension of the Respondent's license shall continue until further Order of the Board;

and it is further

ORDERED that this, "Order for Summary Suspension of Registered Nurse License" is a

PUBLIC RECORD pursuant to Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-101 et seq.& § 4-333

(2019 Repl. Vol.).

January 31, 2022

Date

Karen E. B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC

The Executive Director's Signature Appears on the Original Document

Maryland Board of Nursing

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