



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health Professions Board of Medicine

John W. Hasty
Director of the Department

Warren W. Koontz, M.D.
Executive Director of the Board

August 25, 1999

6606 West Broad Street
4th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717
(804) 662-9908
FAX (804) 662-9517

Teresa L. Delawter, M.D.
8807 Sudley Road
Manassas, Virginia 22110

CERTIFIED MAIL
P 629 378 348

RE: License No. 0101-051233

Dear Dr. Delawter:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") will be held on **Thursday, October 14, 1999, at 4:00 p.m., at the Department of Health Professions, 6606 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia**. The conference will be conducted pursuant to Sections 54.1-2919 and 9-6.14:11 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").

An Informal Conference Committee ("Committee"), composed of three members of the Board, will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in Virginia. Specifically, you may have violated Section 54.1-2915.A(3) of the Code, as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(9), (10), (15) and (16) of the Code, and 18 VAC 85-20-100 of the Regulations Relating to Medicine and Other Healing Arts, in that:

1. From on or about October 10, 1997 to on or about February 5, 1998, you provided psychiatric treatment to Patient A. During the course of the physician-patient relationship and thereafter, you acted unprofessionally and unethically in that you failed to maintain appropriate therapeutic boundaries and entered into a personal and sexual relationship with Patient A. Specifically:
 - a. In approximately February 1998, you allowed Patient A, an employee of the Manassas Police Department, to arrange personal security for you. This arrangement required Patient A to be fully knowledgeable about details of your personal life.
 - b. On or about February 17, 1998, Patient A related to her therapist that she "was interested in someone else" while discussing Patient A's marriage. On or about February 24, 1998, Patient A told her therapist that she was "involved with a woman" and would leave her husband "as soon as bills are paid." On or about March 10, 1998, Patient A reported that she had left her husband and had spent the weekend with her woman friend, who was "deeply accepting" and provided "unconditional love."

- c. By your own admission, you allowed a personal relationship to develop with Patient A, and, as of August 1998, you and Patient A were sharing an apartment.
- d. By your own admission, your relationship with Patient A is “intimate.”

In order to protect the privacy of Patient A, she has been referred to by letter only. Please see Attachment I of this notice for the identity of the individual referenced above. The following actions may be taken by this Committee:

1. If a majority of the Committee is of the opinion that a suspension or revocation of your license may be justified, the Committee shall present to the Board in writing its findings, and the Board may proceed with a formal hearing;
2. The Committee may notify you in writing that you are fully exonerated of any charge that might affect your right to practice medicine in Virginia;
3. The Committee may reprimand or censure you, or;
4. The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and direct that during such period you furnish the Committee or its chairman, at such intervals as the Committee may direct, evidence that you are not practicing in violation of the provisions of Chapter 29, Title 54.1 of the Code, which governs the practice of medicine in Virginia.

You have the right to information which will be relied upon by the Committee in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents which will be distributed to the members of the Committee, and will be considered by the Committee when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon your case. Since you have been noticed of an alleged violation of Section 54.1-2914.A(9) of the Code, enclosed in these documents are Principles of Medical Ethics with Annotations Especially Applicable to Psychiatry. The Committee may consider these principles when determining whether you have conducted your practice in a manner contrary to the standards of ethics of the practice of medicine. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, and must be claimed at the post office. I also enclose relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which governs proceedings of this nature, as well as laws and regulations relating to the practice of medicine and other healing arts in Virginia.


Absent good cause shown to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on October 14, 1999. A request to continue this proceeding must state **in detail** the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made in writing to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 9, 1999. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent exigent circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after September 9, 1999, will not be considered.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. Further, it is your responsibility to provide the enclosed materials to your attorney.

To facilitate this proceeding, the Committee requests that you provide to Emily O. Wingfield, Senior Legal Assistant, Department of Health Professions, 6606 West Broad Street, 4th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717, eight (8) copies of any documents you intend to submit for its consideration by September 17, 1999.

Please advise the Board of your intention to be present. Should you fail to appear at the informal conference the Board may proceed to a formal administrative hearing in order to impose sanctions. Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Emily O. Wingfield, Senior Legal Assistant, at (804) 662-7592.

Sincerely,


Warren W. Koontz, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

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cc: Joseph A. Leming, M.D., President, Virginia Board of Medicine
John W. Hasty, Director, Department of Health Professions
James L. Banning, Director, Administrative Proceedings Division
Emily O. Wingfield, Senior Legal Assistant
Renee Dixon, Case Manager, Board of Medicine
Charles F. Johnson, Senior Investigator (1999-00897)
Judi Smith, Senior Administrative Assistant

Enclosures:

Virginia Code Sections:
54.1-2914
54.1-2915
54.1-2919
9-6.14:11
18 VAC 85-20-100
Attachment I
Informal Conference Package
Map

