

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
AGENCY SUBORDINATE
INFORMAL CONFERENCE
March 18, 2026**

TIME AND PLACE: The informal conference held before an Agency Subordinate of the Board of Nursing was convened at 10:30 A.M., on March 18, 2026, in Hearing Room 3, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

AGENCY
SUBORDINATE: Cynthia M. Swineford, R.N., M.S.N., C.N.E.

STAFF PRESENT: Charlette Ridout, R.N., M.S.

OTHERS PRESENT: Avi Efreom, Adjudication Specialist
Aaron Timberlake, Adjudication Specialist
Piero Mannino, Adjudication Specialist
Elizabeth Dorsey, Adjudication Specialist

CONFERENCE
SCHEDULED:

Fenet Ayele Mulugeta, RN Applicant

Ms. Mulugeta appeared and was accompanied by her Godfather Aba Michael.

Ms. Mulugeta was informed a recommended decision would be mailed to her within ninety days.

This recommendation will be presented to the Full Board; if accepted, an Order will be entered. As provided by law, this decision shall become a Final Order thirty days after service of such order on Ms. Mulugeta unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against her is received from Ms. Mulugeta within such time. If service of the order is made by mail, three additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the Order shall be vacated.

CONFERENCE
SCHEDULED:

Kristal Sanders, CNA Applicant

Ms. Sanders appeared.

Ms. Sanders was informed a recommended decision would be mailed to her within ninety days.

This recommendation will be presented to the Full Board; if accepted, an Order will be entered. As provided by law, this decision shall become a Final Order thirty days after service of such order on Ms. Sanders unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against her is received from Ms. Sanders within such time. If service of the order is made by mail, three additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the Order shall be vacated.

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RECESS: The Informal Conference recessed at 12:08 P.M.

RECONVENED: The Informal Conference reconvened at 1:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE
SCHEDULED:

Deborah Lynn Lester, RN 0001-158253

Ms. Lester did not appear.

Based upon information provided by Ms. Dorsey, Ms. Swineford ruled that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Lester.

A recommended decision will be mailed to Ms. Lester within ninety days.

This recommendation will be presented to the Full Board; if accepted, an Order will be entered. As provided by law, this decision shall become a Final Order thirty days after service of such order on Ms. Lester unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against her is received from Ms. Lester within such time. If service of the order is made by mail, three additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the Order shall be vacated.

CONFERENCE
SCHEDULED:

Melanie Kay Holcomb Kello, LPN 0002-062591

Ms. Kello did not appear.

Based upon information provided by Mr. Mannino, Ms. Swineford ruled that adequate notice was provided to Ms. Kello.

A recommended decision will be mailed to Ms. Kello within ninety days.

This recommendation will be presented to the Full Board; if accepted, an Order will be entered. As provided by law, this decision shall become a Final Order thirty days after service of such order on Ms. Kello unless a written request to the Board for a formal hearing on the allegations made against her is received from Ms. Kello within such time. If service of the order is made by mail, three additional days shall be added to that period. Upon such timely request for a formal hearing, the Order shall be vacated.

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ADJOURNMENT: The conference was concluded at 2:20 P.M.

Charlette Ridout

Charlette Ridout, R.N., M.S.
Board Staff