

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICINE**

**IN RE: MATTHEW R. BARTHOLOMEW, M.D.  
License No.: 0101-226499**

**ORDER**

In accordance with Sections 54.1-2400(10), 2.2-4019 and 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was held with Matthew R. Bartholomew, M.D., on July 5, 2006, in Richmond, Virginia. Members of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") serving on the Special Conference Committee ("Committee") were: Sandra Anderson Bell, M.D. Chair; and Gopinath Jadhav, M.D. Dr. Bartholomew appeared personally and was represented by legal counsel, W. Scott Wilson, Esquire. Michelle Wilson, Adjudication Specialist, was present as a representative for the Administrative Proceedings Division of the Department of Health Professions. The purpose of the informal conference was to inquire into allegations that Dr. Bartholomew may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as set forth in a Notice of Informal Conference dated April 7, 2006.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Now, having properly considered the evidence and statements presented, the Committee makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

1. Matthew R. Bartholomew, M.D., was issued license number 0101-226499 to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia on May 26, 2000. Said license will expire on May 31, 2008, unless renewed or otherwise restricted.

2. Dr. Bartholomew violated Section 54.1-2915.A (16) [*formerly Section 54.1-2914.A (11)*] of the Code, in that, on the evening of January 3, 2004, Patient A, an 84-year-old female, presented to the Emergency Department at Bon Secours – Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville, Virginia, upon referral from a dialysis nurse, for evaluation of cloudy peritoneal dialysate. The patient was hypotensive and had become non-verbal. Dr. Bartholomew failed to thoroughly evaluate the patient, in that he did not ensure that the temperature and ortho-static pressure were performed.

3. Dr. Bartholomew diagnosed Patient A with “possible bacterial peritonitis,” but did not admit Patient A to the hospital. Rather, he ordered that antibiotics be added to her dialysis fluid and discharged her home early on January 4, 2004.

4. Dr. Bartholomew stated to the Committee that he had thoroughly reviewed the diagnostic, therapeutic, and systemic aspects of his care to enhance his overall patient management in the emergency department.

### **ORDER**

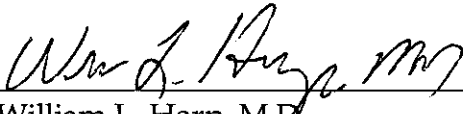
WHEREFORE, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Committee ORDERS that NO SANCTION be imposed upon the license of Dr. Bartholomew to practice medicine and surgery in Virginia.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400.2(F) of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Dr. Bartholomew may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on August 14, 2006, notify William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director, Board of Medicine, 6603 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230, in writing that he desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

Therefore, this Order shall become final on August 14, 2006; unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

FOR THE BOARD

  
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William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Medicine

ENTERED: 7/10/06