



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.
Patricia Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse §
License Number 518166 § REINSTATEMENT
issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS § AGREED ORDER

On this day came to be considered by the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, the Petition for Reinstatement of Registered Nurse License Number 518166, held by ANN COKINS, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was held on November 29, 2011, at the office of the Texas Board of Nursing, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Petitioner appeared in person. Petitioner was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Mary Beth Thomas, PhD, RN, Director of Nursing, Executive Director's Designee; Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director of Enforcement; and Diane E. Burell, Investigator.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
3. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Galveston College, Galveston, Texas, on May 1, 1984. Petitioner was originally licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 24, 1984.

4. Petitioner's professional nursing employment history includes:

9/84 - 12/84	Staff Nurse	UTMB Children's Hospital Galveston, Texas
1984	Staff Nurse	Northwest Texas Hospital Amarillo, Texas
1984 - 1985	Staff Nurse	Texas Children's Hospital Houston, Texas
1985 - 1995	Staff Nurse	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
1995 - 2000	Private Care Nurse	Galveston, Texas
2000 - 2001	Staff Nurse	Gulf Health Care Galveston, Texas
2001 - Unknown	Private Care Nurse	
2006 - 2008	Staff Nurse	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
2008 - present	Not employed in nursing	

5. On August 6, 1996, the Texas Board of Nursing accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing. A copy of the August 6, 1996, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
6. On June 16, 2000, Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing was Reinstated by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the June 16, 2000, Reinstatement Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
7. On June 8, 2010, the Texas Board of Nursing accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing. A copy of the June 8, 2010, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as a part of this Order.
8. On August 26, 2011, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
9. Petitioner presented the following in support of her petition:

- 9.1. Letter of support, dated August 23, 2011, from Ellie Hanley, Executive Director, The Alcohol/Drug Abuse Women's Center, Galveston, Texas, states she has known Petitioner for several years and has watched her progress with admiration. With grace and determination, Ms. Hanley has seen Petitioner face and surmount obstacles which have humbled many others. Throughout, she has demonstrated focused resolve with honesty and compassion. Petitioner's training as a nurse was evident in her approach to women newly in recovery who were anxious. Petitioner was approachable and informative, non-judgmental and thorough in her interactions with the clients. Petitioner has maintained consistent contact with women in recovery who benefit from her willingness to share her strength, hope and experience. Ms. Hanley encourages the Board to acknowledge the work she has done to prepare herself to become active in her profession once again. Petitioner is an asset to the nursing profession and a successful example of a professional restored to good health and good standing through the work of her peers in nursing.
- 9.2. Letter of support, dated July 28, 2011, from James A. Krebs, MS, LCDC, AAC, CSC, Clinical Program Coordinator, Galveston Recovery Program, The Gulf Coast Center, Galveston, Texas, states he has known Petitioner for about six (6) months as her supervisor. She worked as a member of the HIV Outreach Team. She specifically worked as an Educator in providing relevant information and training regarding HIV infection and modes of transmission. Petitioner excelled in her position and exceeded the expectations for that job. It was unfortunate that the funding for the position was not renewed. Petitioner was conscientious, hard working and her personal behavior was beyond reproach. She maintained the highest moral and ethical standards in her work and the workplace. Mr. Krebs sees Petitioner as an asset to any practice, and a valuable member of any staff/team.
- 9.3. Letter of support, dated August 18, 2011, from Sue J. Davis, LBSW, LCDC, Executive Manager, Addiction Recovery & MH Housing Programs, Gulf Coast Center, Galveston, Texas, states Petitioner worked for the Gulf Coast Center as a health educator in the HIV Division. She passed her pre-employment drug screen and made them aware of her oversight by TPAPN. During the six (6) months of Petitioner's tenure with the Center, she was reliable, consistent and unfailingly committed to the well-being of those they serve. They could always rely on Petitioner to go the extra mile when it came to client care. Petitioner was an enormous asset to the team. She was personable, committed, and collaborative and well-respected by her colleagues. Ms. Davis would not hesitate to re-hire if a position for which she is qualified becomes available. Ms. Davis would gladly recommend her for other positions within the organization or within the community.
- 9.4. Letter of support, dated July 19, 2011, from Dr. Gabriel Rodriguez, Urology Specialists of Mainland, states he has known Petitioner for over five (5) years. He worked with her at The University of Texas Branch in Galveston, Texas. Dr. Rodriguez has personally observed her in the Urology clinics. She was a very hard worker and very efficient with patient care matters. She was well liked by her patients and co-workers. She displayed more than competence as a nurse. Dr. Rodriguez is very aware of Petitioner's unfortunate

circumstances and that her actions have been addressed. Petitioner has shown great remorse and has taken responsibility for her actions. She has made amends with Dr. Rodriguez and his staff. Dr. Rodriguez would hope that Petitioner be given the change to remedy her situation and practice nursing as she has done for more than twenty-five (25) years.

- 9.5. Letter of support, dated Cassandra Snyder, states Petitioner was employed as an in-home care giver for her infant daughter. Petitioner was responsible for her daughter's entire well being while Ms. Snyder was at work. Petitioner has excellent communication skills and is very honest about her expectations and abilities. Petitioner is extremely responsible, reliable, and pleasant. Petitioner never neglected any part of her job. Petitioner would be a coveted asset to any company and has Ms. Snyder's highest recommendations and accolades.
- 9.6. Letter of support from Brenda Rodgers states she is writing on behalf of her sponsor and friend. Ms. Rodgers has known Petitioner for forty (40) plus years and is aware that she surrendered her license in 2010. Petitioner is active in recovery and attends meetings weekly. She is especially active in the Women's NA meetings at Moody Methodist Church. She also attends numerous AA and NA meetings regularly throughout Galveston County. Petitioner supports the new women at Moody and never forgets that she is one of them. She gives hope to women, shares her story and has compassion and understanding. Ms. Rodgers knows 2008 was a difficult year for Petitioner, but she handled it with grace and dignity. She uses her experiences to encourage others that they too can recover.
- 9.7. Letter of support, dated July 17, 2011, from Penny Janke, states she was Petitioner's sponsor from 1993 through 1998. Petitioner was also employed by Ms. Janke as a care giver for her mother-in-law from March 2009 through April 2010. Petitioner was always punctual and professional. Ms. Janke chose Petitioner to help out because she has known her for twenty-two (22) years and knew she was capable of taking care of such a demanding position. Petitioner is competent, professional, and above all, loving and compassionate. Petitioner was an asset to the nursing profession.
- 9.8. Letter of support, dated August 23, 2011, from Anne Rodwell, states she has known Petitioner for over forty (40) years. In those years, she has also been privileged to be acquainted with her family of origin. Petitioner has proven to be very dedicated to her family and her profession. In the last years of her father's life, she conscientiously took care of his medical needs, nurturing and caring for him to the end. Petitioner's enthusiasm and dedication for her field make her a natural fit for her profession. She genuinely cares about people. She has proven to be a loyal and trustworthy friend, and a dedicated and skilled professional in the nursing field.
- 9.9. Verification of successful completion of a minimum of twenty (20) Continuing Education Contact Hours.
10. Petitioner gives September 3, 1996, as her date of sobriety.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
3. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of LEIGH ANN COKINS, Registered Nurse License Number 518166, to practice nursing in the state of Texas, be and the same is hereby GRANTED, AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS SO LONG AS THE PETITIONER complies in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 *et. seq.* and the stipulations contained in this Order:

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Petitioner's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Petitioner's license is encumbered by this Order, Petitioner may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Petitioner wishes to work.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL pay all re-registration fees and be issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation. Said license issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS, shall be subject to the following agreed post-licensure stipulations:

(2) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of relicensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify PETITIONER's successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. *Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address:*
<http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of relicensure, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension. In order to receive credit for completion of this program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address:*
<http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER CHOOSE TO WORK AS A NURSE IN TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS PROBATION PERIOD:

(4) PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(6) For the duration of the stipulation period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(7) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for two (2) year(s) of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of convictions, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

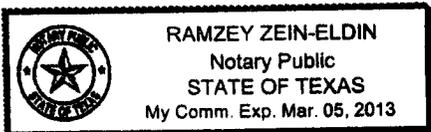
I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, my license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas will be revoked, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 27th day of December 2011
Leigh Ann Cokins
LEIGH ANN COKINS, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of December, 2011.

SEAL

Ramzey Zein-Eldin
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of December, 2011, by LEIGH ANN COKINS, Registered Nurse License Number 581865, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of February, 2012.



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

1984	RN	Northwest Texas Hospital Amarillo, Texas
1984 - 1985	RN	Texas Children's Hospital Houston, Texas
1985 - 1995	RN	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
1995 - 2000	RN	Private Care Nurse Galveston, Texas
2000 - 2001	RN	Gulf Health Care Galveston, Texas
2001 - Present	RN	Private Care Nurse
2006 - 2008	RN	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas
2008 - Present		Not employed in nursing.

6. On August 6, 1996, Respondent voluntarily surrendered her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated August 6, 1996, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
7. On June 16, 2000, Respondent was issued a Reinstatement Agreed Order by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Agreed Order dated June 16, 2000, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
8. On or about May 11, 2006, Respondent was arrested by the Galveston Police Department, Galveston Texas, for THEFT OF PROP >=\$20<\$500 (a Class B Misdemeanor offense which occurred on October 28, 2004). On May 15, 2007, Respondent plead nolo contendere to the offense of Theft of Property in the County Court No. 2, Galveston County Texas, cause number 03238648. Respondent was sentenced to five (5) days confinement with credit for time served. In addition, she was also required to pay court costs.

9. On or about June 30, 2006, Respondent arrested by the Galveston Police Department, Galveston, Texas, for THEFT OF PROP >=\$50<\$500 (a Class B Misdemeanor). On May 15, 2007, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of Theft of Property in the County Court No. 2, Galveston County Texas, cause number 032659610101. Respondent was sentenced to ten (10) days confinement with nine (9) days credit time served. In addition, she was required to pay a fine and court costs.
10. On or about November 11, 2009 through November 12, 2009, Respondent submitted a fraudulent, telephonically communicated prescription for Fluoxetine, Azithromycin, and Levothyroxine to Wal-Mart Pharmacy, Galveston, Texas. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the pharmacy and possession of Fluoxetine, Azithromycin, and Levothyroxine through use of a unauthorized, telephonically communicated prescription is prohibited by Chapter 483 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Dangerous Drug Act).
11. In response to Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent states: "I contacted an associate that I had previously worked with, in order to obtain refills for medications I have been on for 20 years. The original hard copy prescription was written by Dr. Shepherd. I had obtained refills during my employment by physicians I worked with. I lost my position at UTMB after the hurricane. I also lost my insurance. The physician's name was not changed when it was called in as I had requested. Dr. Shepherd's DEA number was not used nor was it needed for the medication I requested. In hind sight, I should have gone to the clinic myself to obtain new prescriptions. I take full responsibility for this error and apologize for using bad judgement in order to obtain legitimate prescriptions due to finances. Dr. Shepherd has my complete medical record that will verify that the medications were prescribed initially by her. I have maintained my sobriety and am extremely active in the recovery community here in Galveston."
12. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(H),(10)(E)&(13).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(a), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered License Number 518166, heretofore issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered License Number 518166, heretofore issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL immediately deliver the wallet-sized license, heretofore issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
4. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 8th day of June, 2010

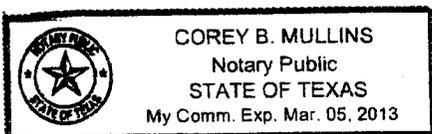
Leigh Ann Cokins
LEIGH ANN COKINS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of June, 2010.

SEAL

Corey B. Mullins

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

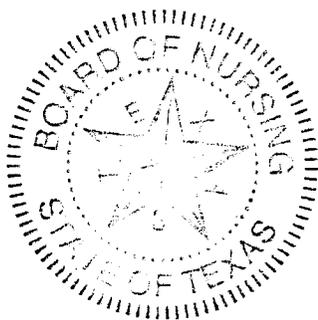


WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 518166, previously issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS.

Effective this 8TH day of June, 2010.



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board



BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 518166 § REINSTATEMENT
issued to LEIGH A. COKINS § AGREED ORDER

On this day came to be considered by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, the Petition for Reinstatement of registered nurse license number 518166, held by LEIGH A. COKINS, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was held on April 25, 2000, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Petitioner appeared in person. Petitioner was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Katherine A. Inomas, MN, RN, Executive Director; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, Director of Enforcement; Sandra Owen, Director of Professional Nursing; and Noemi Leal, Senior Investigator.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
2. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Galveston College, Galveston, Texas in May of 1984. Petitioner was originally licensed to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas on August 24, 1984.
3. Petitioner's professional employment history included:

06/84 - 08/84	Staff RN UTMB Children's Hospital Galveston, TX
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Petitioner's employment history continued:

08/84 - 11/84	Staff RN Northwest Texas Hospital Amarillo, TX
11/84 - 01/85	Pre/Post Op RN Texas Children's Hospital Houston, TX
01/85 - 05/85	Staff RN Mainland Medical Center Texas City, TX
05/85 - 06/87	Staff RN UTMB Children's Hospital Galveston, TX
06/87 - 07/91	Infant Care RN UTMB Women's and Infants Galveston, TX
07/91 - 06/92	Pediatric ICU RN UTMB Children's Hospital Galveston, TX
06/92 - 01/94	Newborn Nursery RN UTMB Galveston, TX
01/94 - 04/95	Pediatric Emergency RN UTMB Children's Hospital Galveston, TX
04/95 - 10/96	Unemployed
10/96 - present	Not employed in nursing

4. The Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing on August 6, 1996. A copy of the Order accepting the surrender of Petitioner's license is attached and incorporated by reference as a part of this Order.

5. On or about November 2, 1999, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
6. Petitioner presented the following in support of her petition:
 - 6.1 Copy of court documents for Cause No. 162033 in the County Court No.1 of Galveston County, Texas. On September 19, 1996, Petitioner plead nolo contendere to Forge/Increase Prescribed Quantity/Dangerous Drug, a Class B misdemeanor. Petitioner was fined \$400 and court costs.
 - 6.2 Letter of reference, dated February 26, 1999, from Janice Connard, Galveston, Texas. Ms. Connard has employed Petitioner since October 1996 as a health care provider.
 - 6.3 Letter of reference, dated August 16, 1999, from Penny Janke, Galveston, Texas. Ms. Janke has been Petitioner's NA sponsor since September 1996.
 - 6.4 Evidence of Petitioner's completion of the continuing education hours necessary for relicensure.
7. Petitioner's administrative date is September 2, 1996.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
3. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that the petition of LEIGH A. COKINS, license number 518166, to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas, be and the same is hereby GRANTED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS SO LONG AS THE PETITIONER complies in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, 301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et. seq.* and the stipulations contained in this Order:

(1) PETITIONER SHALL NOT seek employment or practice nursing for compensation until she has completed the following pre-licensure conditions and obtained a license to practice professional nursing from the Board.

(2) PETITIONER SHALL apply for a "Six-Month Clinical Permit" for the limited purpose of completing a refresher course. PETITIONER SHALL NOT, in any way, attempt to use this clinical permit for any purpose other than attending this course.

(3) PETITIONER SHALL successfully complete a nursing refresher course prior to returning to the practice of professional nursing in the State of Texas. The refresher course shall include: 1) the role of the professional nurse; 2) a review of the nursing process to include assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation; 3) Pharmacology review; 4) medication administration review for all standard route of administration; 5) documentation, quality assurance and legal implications for nursing practice; and 6) current CPR certification. This course must contain a minimum 24-hour clinical component, providing direct patient care, which is to be supervised by another registered nurse.

(4) Upon completion of the refresher course, PETITIONER SHALL return the clinical permit to the office of the Board, and PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to notify the Board, on a form provided by the Board, of Petitioner's successful completion of the refresher course, including the required clinical component.

(5) Upon verification of successful completion of the agreed pre-licensure conditions of reinstatement, as set out in this Order, PETITIONER SHALL pay all re-registration fees and be issued a license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation. Said license issued to LEIGH A. COKINS, shall be subject to the following agreed post-licensure stipulations:

(6) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of relicensure, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience must include registered nurses. It must be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify PETITIONER's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure.

(7) PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER SHALL present a copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(8) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(9) For the first year of employment as a registered nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a registered nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional nurse to be working on the same unit as PETITIONER and readily available to provide assistance and intervention. PETITIONER SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(10) For the remainder of the stipulated period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a registered nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(11) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a professional nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the assigned unit(s) for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

(12) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a professional nurse in any critical care area for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care unit, emergency room, operating room, telemetry, recovery room, and labor and delivery units.

(13) PETITIONER SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan or other synthetic opiates for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

(14) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER's capability to practice professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for two (2) years of employment as a professional nurse.

(15) PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription.

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(16) PETITIONER SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the second three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene

A Board representative may appear at the PETITIONER's place of employment at any time during

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. PETITIONER SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board.

(17) PETITIONER SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the PETITIONER's progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice professional nursing. The report must

indicate whether or not the PETITIONER's stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. Such reports are to be furnished each and every month for three (3) months. If therapy is recommended for beyond three (3) months, the reports shall then be required at the end of each three (3) month period for the duration of the stipulation period, or until PETITIONER is dismissed from therapy.

(18) PETITIONER SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which shall be for substance abuse; and PETITIONER SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least; the date of each meeting, the name of each group attended, and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by PETITIONER. PETITIONER SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) months. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be issued an unencumbered license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

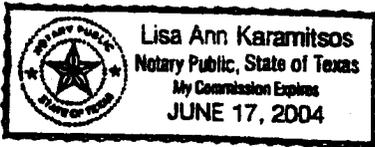
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including revocation of my license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2000.

Leigh A. Cokins
LEIGH A. COKINS, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of June, 2000.

SEAL



Lisa Ann Karamitsos
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 16th day of June, 2000, by LEIGH A. COKINS, license number 518166, and said Order is final.

Effective this 15th day of August, 2000.

Katherine A Thomas

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of Permanent Certificate §
Number 518166 issued to §
LEIGH ANN COKINS §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

To: LEIGH ANN COKINS
 3311 Ashton Place, #163
 Galveston, Texas 77551

On this day, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of professional nurse license number _____ taken in accordance with Article 4525.1(c), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice was provided to Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
3. On or about August 26, 1994, while employed at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Galveston, Texas, Respondent admitted to using crack cocaine. Possession of crack cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of crack cocaine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to duty or call could impair a nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate and appropriate assessments, judgments and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.

4. On or about September 9, 1994, while employed at the aforementioned facility, Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which tested positive for benzodiazepines. Possession of benzodiazepines is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of benzodiazepines by a Registered Nurse, while subject to duty or call could impair a nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate and appropriate assessments, judgments and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
5. On or about September 9, 1994, while employed at the aforementioned facility, Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which tested positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine. Possession of amphetamine and methamphetamine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of amphetamine and methamphetamine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to duty or call could impair a nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate and appropriate assessments, judgments and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
6. On or about March 31, 1995, while employed at the aforementioned facility, Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which tested positive for cocaine. Possession of cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The use of cocaine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to duty or call could impair a nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate and appropriate assessments, judgments and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
7. Respondent submitted a notarized statement to the Board voluntarily surrendering the right to practice professional nursing in Texas.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Article 4525, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. Under Article 4525.1(c), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
4. Under Article 4525.1(d), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

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ORDER

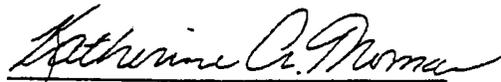
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of license number 518166, heretofore issued to LEIGH ANN COKINS to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Board of Nurse Examiners. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title of "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is in surrender.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT submit a petition for reinstatement until 5 years have elapsed from the date of this Order.
3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

Signed this 6th day of August, 1996.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

By:



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board