



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 P. Ramirez
Executive Director of the Board

IN THE MATTER OF
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE
NUMBER 125488
ISSUED TO
THELMA RAMIREZ

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BEFORE THE ELIGIBILITY
AND DISCIPLINARY
COMMITTEE
OF THE TEXAS
BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: THELMA RAMIREZ
108 N. OKLAHOMA
FT. STOCKTON, TX 79735

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on June 14, 2011, the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee of the Texas Board of Nursing finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Certificate Number 125488, previously issued to THELMA RAMIREZ, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 14th day of June, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:



KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charge filed February 1, 2011.

Re: Permanent Certificate Number 125488
Issued to THELMA RAMIREZ
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 11th day of June, 2011, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served by placement in the U.S. Mail via certified mail, and addressed to the following person(s):

THELMA RAMIREZ
108 N. OKLAHOMA
FT. STOCKTON, TX 79735

BY: 
KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of Permanent License § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**
Number 125488, Issued to §
THELMA RAMIREZ, Respondent § **BOARD OF NURSING**

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, THELMA RAMIREZ, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 125488, which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about July 6, 2009 Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on May 18, 2009, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

(2) Respondent shall pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order....

A copy of the May 18, 2009, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

CHARGE II.

On or about May 19, 2010, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on May 18, 2009, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number One (1) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

(1) Respondent shall, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics....

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

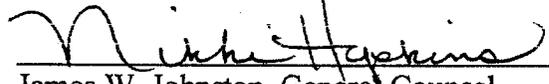
NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.state.tx.us.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order which is attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated May 18, 2009.

Filed this 1st day of February, 2011.



James W. Johnston, General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization

State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Renee Koslan Abel, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24036103

Lance Robert Brenton, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24066924

Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 50511847

Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 24052269

John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel

State Bar No. 00785533

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460

Austin, Texas 78701

P: (512) 305-6824

F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Agreed Order dated May 18, 2009.

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse § AGREED
License Number 125488 §
issued to THELMA RAMIREZ § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of THELMA RAMIREZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 125488, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Sections 301.251 and 301.452(b)(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on April 17, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent holds a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas which is in delinquent status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational from Midland College, Fort Stockton, Texas, on August 28, 1989. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on December 7, 1989.
5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

12/89 - 12/91 Unknown

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

01/92 - 12/95	LVN Charge Nurse	Fort Stockton Nursing Center Fort Stockton, Texas
01/96 - 12/08	LVN Staff Nurse	Pecos County Memorial Hospital Fort Stockton, Texas
01/09 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a LVN Staff Nurse with Pecos County Memorial Hospital, Fort Stockton, Texas, and had been in this position for ten (10) years and nine (9) months.
7. On or about October 1, 2006, through November 26, 2007, while employed with Pecos County Memorial Hospital, Fort Stockton, Texas, Respondent practiced vocational nursing without a valid license. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas expired on September 30, 2006 and her license renewal application was rescinded due to insufficient payment. As of this date Respondent's license remains in delinquent status. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the employer and could have affected the decision to continue employment.
8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she did not know that her license was delinquent. She did not receive the letter from the Board stating that her payment did not go through and she received a current license.

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 Sections 301.452(b)(13) and 301.251, Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 125488, heretofore issued to THELMA RAMIREZ, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION AND A FINE, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply 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 this Order.

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

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

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT 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. RESPONDENT 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 RESPONDENT'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>.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

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

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

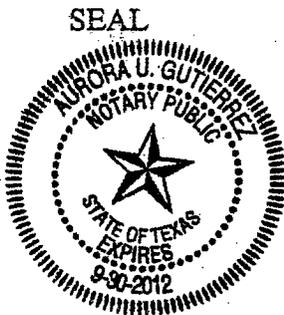
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 12 day of May, 2009.

Thelma Ramirez
THELMA RAMIREZ, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of May, 2009.

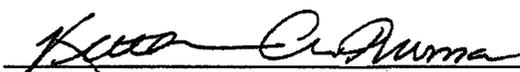
Aurora U. Gutierrez
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 12th day of May, 2009, by THELMA RAMIREZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 125488, and said Order is final.



Effective this 18th day of May, 2009.



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