

IN THE MATTER OF
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE
NUMBER 548125
ISSUED TO
DEIDRA H. NICHOLS

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



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. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Deidra H. Nichols
4314 Ave. Q 1/2 #604
Santa Fe, TX 77510

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on Tuesday, 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 professional 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 548125, previously issued to DEIDRA H. NICHOLS, to practice professional 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 professional 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

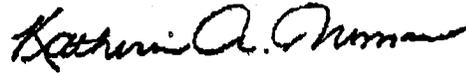
Attachment: Formal Charge filed April 14, 2011.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15th 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):

Deidra H. Nichols
4314 Ave. Q 1/2 #604
Santa Fe, TX 77510

BY:



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

In the Matter of Permanent License § BEFORE THE TEXAS
Number 548125, Issued to §
DEIDRA H. NICHOLS, Respondent § BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, DEIDRA H. NICHOLS, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 548125, 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 May 19, 2009, Respondent entered a plea of Nolo Contendere to POSS CS PG 3 < 28G (a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on January 30, 2009), in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Galveston County, Texas, under Cause No. 289941. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of twelve (12) months. Additionally, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, (eff. date 09/01/2007), and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(13).

CHARGE II.

On or about September 8, 2009, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she was hospitalized at Mainland Medical Center, Texas City, Texas, for a drug overdose and possible suicide attempt.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(9)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, (eff. date 09/01/2009), and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(5).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to revocation of Respondent's license to practice 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).

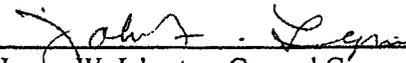
NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.state.tx.us.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, which 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.

Filed this 14~~th~~ day of April, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING


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