BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

****

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 596694	§	AGREED
and Vocational Nurse License Number 134847	§	
issued to MICHAEL BERNARD RUIZ	§	ORDER

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.
Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the considered the matter of MICHAEL BERNARD RUIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 596694, and Vocational Nurse License Number 134847, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(2) & (10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on April 19, 2011, 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(s).

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

3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Galveston Community College, Galveston, Texas, on August 30, 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on December 3, 1991. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Galveston College, Galveston, Texas, on May 14, 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993.

5. Respondent's vocational and professional nursing employment history includes:

   01/92 - 08/92 Unknown

Respondent's vocational and professional nursing employment history continued:

09/92 - Present	LVN/RN	University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas

6. On or about June 2, 2008, Respondent was convicted of "Interfere With Duties of a Public Servant," a Class B Misdemeanor (committed on March 3, 2008), in the Galveston County Court at Law Number Three, Galveston, Texas, under Cause Number 032804280101.

7. On or about April 5, 2009, Respondent submitted an online renewal to the Texas Board of Nursing in which he provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information in that he answered "no" to the following question:

   "Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:
   A. been convicted of a misdemeanor."

   On or about June 2, 2008, Respondent was convicted of "Interfere With Duties of a Public Servant," a Class B Misdemeanor (committed on March 3, 2008), in the Galveston County Court at Law Number Three, Galveston, Texas, under Cause Number 032804280101.

8. Respondent admits to the conduct outlined in Finding of Fact Number Six (6). Regarding the conduct outlined in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that he doesn't remember how he answered it online but if he answered "no" it was unintentional.

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)(2) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 596694 and Vocational Nurse License Number 134847, heretofore issued to MICHAEL BERNARD RUIZ, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED 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, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent 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 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, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, 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. *Information regarding this workshop may be found at the following web address: http://learningext.com/hives/a0f6f3e8a0/summary.*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00). 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 5th day of May, 2011.

Michael Bernard Ruiz

MICHAEL BERNARD RUIZ, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of May, 2011.

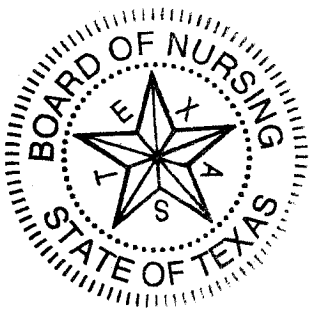
Freda Davis

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

SEAL

FREDA G. DAVIS
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
AUGUST 27, 2013

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 5th day of May, 2011, by MICHAEL BERNARD RUIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 596694 and Vocational Nurse License Number 134847, and said Order is final.



Effective this 11th day of May, 2011.

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