

IN THE MATTER OF
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE
NUMBERS 622295 & 148899
ISSUED TO
GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

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: GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD
2114 E. MARSHALL, APT 118
LONGVIEW, TEXAS 75601

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on May 10, 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 licenses to practice professional and 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.

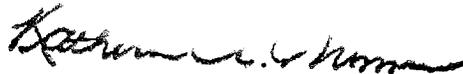
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Certificate Numbers 622295 & 148899, previously issued to GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD, to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same are hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 10th day of May, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:



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

Attachment: Formal Charge filed March 25, 2011.

Re: Permanent Certificate Numbers 622295 & 148899
Issued to GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 10th day of May, 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):

GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD
2114 E. MARSHALL, APT 118
LONGVIEW, TEXAS 75601



BY: _____

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

In the Matter of Permanent Registered Nurse	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
License Number 622295 and	§	
Permanent Vocational Nurse	§	
License Number 148899, Issued to	§	
GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD, Respondent	§	BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, GWENDOLYN IRENE PRITCHARD, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 622295, which is in current status at the time of this pleading, and is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 148899, 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 21, 2009, while employed with Whispering Pines Lodge, Longview, Texas, Respondent failed to assess and intervene appropriately upon determining that Resident JW was unresponsive. After checking the resident's blood sugar twice and finding it within normal limits both times, Respondent left the resident, without nursing supervision and without assessing the resident's vital signs, to notify Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and retrieve the facility's crash cart. Shortly after returning to the resident's room, Respondent noted that the resident's breathing had become slower and shallower. Instead of immediately providing the resident with rescue breathing, Respondent took several minutes to manually adjust the patient's bed to a lower position and then proceeded to obtain an Ambu bag from the crash cart in order to provide rescue breathing. As Respondent retrieved the Ambu bag, EMS arrived, initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and subsequently transported the resident to an acute care facility, where she was pronounced deceased. Respondent's conduct may have contributed to the resident's demise.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(M),(2)(A)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A)&(4).

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

CHARGE II.

On or about November 24, 2009, through January 18, 2010, while employed with Whispering Pines Lodge, Longview, Texas, Respondent signed out Hydrocodone/APAP 5/500 multiple times for six (6) residents without documenting administration of the Hydrocodone/APAP 5/500 on the medication administration record, as follows:

Dates	Resident	Number of Times	Quantity of Tablets each Time
11/24/2009 to 1/18/2010	SS	35	2
12/28/2009 to 1/18/2010	MB	10	1
1/5/2010 to 1/18/2010	MP	15	1
1/6/2010 to 1/18/2010	EH	8	1
1/13/2010 to 1/18/2010	WW	5	1
1/13/2010 to 1/18/2010	IM	7	1

Respondent's employment was terminated on January 27, 2010, after not cooperating with the facility's request that she submit to a urine drug screen. Respondent's conduct resulted in incomplete medical records and violated Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(1)(D) and 217.12(1)(A),(10)(B)&(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 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 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 25th day of March, 2011.



TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

R. Kyle Hensley
James W. Johnston, General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300

Jena 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

D/2010.12.28