

IN THE MATTER OF  
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE  
NUMBER 745679  
ISSUED TO  
SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON

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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 A. Plummer*  
Executive Director of the Board

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON  
6565 MCCALLUM BLVD #116  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75252

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 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 745679, previously issued to SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON, 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 February 11, 2011.

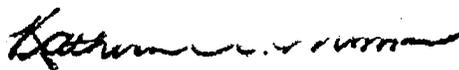
Re: Permanent Certificate Number 745679  
Issued to SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON  
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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):

SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON  
6565 MCCALLUM BLVD #116  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75252

BY:



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

**In the Matter of Permanent License  
Number 745679, Issued to  
SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON, Respondent**

§ **BEFORE THE TEXAS**  
§  
§ **BOARD OF NURSING**

**FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, SUSAN ELIZABETH GORDON, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 745679, which is in current 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 November 13, 2009, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Methodist Richardson Medical Center, Mental Health Services, Richardson, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately report to the physician, and ensure that he understood, that the evening medications for Patient Number 551755, including oral Geodon, Depakote, Klonopin, and Inderal, had only just been administered when she contacted the physician to obtain orders for additional medications to control the patient's agitated behaviors. Consequently, the physician ordered additional medications, including Geodon, Ativan, and Benadryl, be administered by injection. Respondent's conduct may have been deceptive and was likely to injure the patient from adverse reactions to excessive medications, including possible 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)(D)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)&(6)(H).

**CHARGE II.**

On or about November 13, 2009, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Methodist Richardson Medical Center, Mental Health Services, Richardson, Texas, Respondent inappropriately administered an injection of Benadryl and allowed a Staff Nurse to administer injections of Geodon and Ativan to Patient Number 551755, who was asleep and sedated after having been administered oral medications, including Geodon, less than one (1) hour earlier. The patient had been aggressive and inappropriate earlier in the shift but was asleep and no longer exhibiting the inappropriate behaviors when approached by Respondent and the Staff Nurse to administer the injections. Despite the patient being asleep and without inappropriate behaviors, Respondent administered the Benadryl injection anyway and she allowed the Staff Nurse to administer the Geodon and Ativan injections. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from adverse reactions to over-medication, including possible 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)(C),(1)(U)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(2)&(4).

### CHARGE III.

On or about November 13, 2009, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Methodist Richardson Medical Center, Mental Health Services, Richardson, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure that the status and behaviors of Patient Number 551755 were assessed and documented, including vital signs, before injections of Benadryl, Geodon, and Ativan were administered to the patient. Despite the patient having been administered oral doses of Geodon, Depakote, Klonopin, and Inderal less than one (1) hour earlier, Respondent did not ensure that the patient was periodically re-assessed by a nurse after the injections were administered. At change of shift less than five (5) hours later, oncoming staff found the patient without pulse, respirations, or blood pressure, and the patient was pronounced deceased after attempted resuscitation was unsuccessful. Respondent's conduct may have contributed to the patient'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)(D),(1)(M),(1)(S),(1)(U)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(F),(2)&(4).

### CHARGE IV.

On or about December 1, 2010, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Methodist Richardson Medical Center, Mental Health Services, Richardson, Texas, Respondent failed to complete the admission assessment of Patient Number 546884, who had been admitted with suicidal thoughts after taking an overdose of Xanax. Subsequently, Respondent notified the physician of the patient's request to be discharged AMA (Against Medical Advice) but provided the physician only incomplete assessment information. As a result, the physician issued orders to discharge the patient AMA, without realizing the patient's risk of self harm. The Respondent then implemented the physician's AMA discharge order. Shortly after being discharged, the patient again overdosed and returned to the facility's Emergency Department, where he eventually required intubation and admission to the Intensive Care Unit due to respiratory compromise with failure. Respondent's conduct may have contributed to the patient's repeated suicide attempt and subsequent respiratory failure.

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)(D),(1)(M)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).

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).

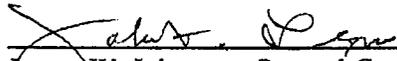
NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Fraud, Theft & Deception, which can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://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](http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html).

Filed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



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