



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.
Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of § ELIGIBILITY
ETHEL L. MATHIS §
APPLICANT for Eligibility for Licensure § AGREED ORDER

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as Board, considered the Temporary License/Endorsement Application and supporting documents filed by ETHEL L. MATHIS, hereinafter referred to as APPLICANT, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and APPLICANT's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that APPLICANT may have violated Article 4525(b)(9), Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. and Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 15, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about October 6, 2008, Applicant submitted an Application for Licensure by Endorsement requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Sections 213.30 and 217.5.
2. Applicant waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
3. Applicant received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mohawk Valley Community College, Utica, New York, in May 2005.
4. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Endorsement and answered "yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: *"For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:*

- A. *been convicted of a misdemeanor?*
- B. *been convicted of a felony?*
- C. *pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?*
- D. *received deferred adjudication?*
- E. *been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?*
- F. *been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?*
- G. *been granted pre-trial diversion?*
- H. *been arrested or any pending criminal charges?*
- I. *been cited or charged with any violation of the law?*
- J. *been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation, or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?"*

5. Applicant disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

- A. On January 12, 1973, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Petty Larceny in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to twenty (20) days confinement.
- B. On August 16, 1973, Applicant was convicted of the Class E felony offense of Grand Larceny in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to eighty-two (82) days confinement.
- C. On March 18, 1974, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Prostitution in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to ten (10) days confinement.
- D. On February 1, 1974, Applicant was convicted of the Class D felony offense of Possession of a Forged Instrument in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was placed on three (3) years probation.
- E. On November 24, 1976, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offenses of Assault, Grand Larceny and Resisting Arrest in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to twenty (20) days confinement.
- F. On May 8, 1977, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Prostitution in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to thirty (30) days confinement.
- G. On June 27, 1977, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Offer to Commit Prostitution for Fee in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to ninety (90) days confinement.

- H. On September 1, 1977, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Petty Larceny in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to six (6) months confinement.
 - I. On November 13, 1978, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Prostitution in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to ninety (90) days confinement.
 - J. On May 11, 1979, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Offer to Commit Prostitution for a Fee in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to thirty (30) days confinement.
 - K. On March 25, 1981, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Prostitution in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to five (5) days confinement.
 - L. On January 20, 1982, Applicant was convicted of the offenses of Robbery and Possession of Valium in the Rochester City Court, State of New York, and was sentenced to one (1) year confinement.
 - M. On November 16, 1982, Applicant was convicted of the offenses of Forgery, Criminal Impersonate, and Obstruction of Government Admin. in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to ninety (90) days confinement.
 - N. On March 22, 1983, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was assessed a fine in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).
 - O. On September 12, 1985, Applicant was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Offer to Commit Prostitution for a Fee in the County Court at Law of Oneida County, State of New York, and was sentenced to sixty (60) days confinement.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
 - 7. Applicant has sworn that with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Temporary License/Endorsement Application, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements.
 - 8. Applicant presented no evidence of behavior since her criminal conduct which is inconsistent with good professional character.

9. On February 15, 2009, the Executive Director considered the evidence of the conviction and evaluated its direct relationship to nursing according to Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Texas Administrative Code, §213.28, including the nature and circumstance of the offenses, and the absence of any subsequent conviction.
10. On February 15, 2009, the Executive Director considered evidence of Applicant's post conviction behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Applicant currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
11. Licensure of Applicant poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
12. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Applicant's disclosures.
13. Applicant has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Texas Board of Nursing (Board) has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
2. Applicant has submitted an Application for Licensure by Endorsement requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Sections 213.30 and 217.5.
3. The evidence in Finding of Fact Number Five (5) is sufficient cause to take disciplinary action under Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code, and, therefore, sufficient cause to deny licensure.
4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
5. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Applicant's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and disciplinary action.

6. The Board may license individuals who have been previously convicted of a crime upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §§213.27 and 213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to Chapter 53, Sec. 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
7. Applicant shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that the application of ETHEL L. MATHIS, APPLICANT, is hereby conditionally GRANTED and shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) APPLICANT SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act, and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice.

(2) Upon payment of the necessary fees, APPLICANT SHALL be issued a license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation.

(3) APPLICANT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 *et seq.* and this Order.

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

(5) IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while APPLICANT's license is encumbered by this Order the APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT wishes to work.

(6) APPLICANT SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. APPLICANT 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) contact 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. APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT'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>.*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, APPLICANT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Applicant in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past convictions and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing from each jurisdiction in which I have been convicted. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Temporary License/Endorsement Application has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of conviction such as conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

In connection with my application, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.260, and 301.452(b) of the Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, and Board Rules at 213.27, 213.28, and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code which are incorporated by reference as a part of this Order. I agree with all terms of this Order and any stipulations. I agree to inform the Board of any other grounds for denial of licensure prior to accepting any permit or license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Texas Board of Nursing enter this Order.

Signed this 27 day of May, 2009.

Ethel L. Mathis
ETHEL L. MATHIS, APPLICANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of May, 2009.

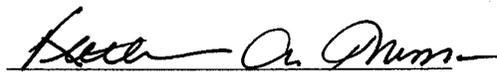
SEAL

Kellie Boulia
Notary Public in and for the State of _____

KELLIE BOULIA
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01BO605110
Qualified in Herkimer County
Commission Expires 11/20/ 10

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Eligibility Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of May, 2009, by ETHEL L. MATHIS, APPLICANT, for Temporary License/Endorsement Application, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of June, 2009.



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