BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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| In the Matter of Vocational Nurse | § | AGREED |
| License Number 158785 | § | |
| issued to LAVERNADENE LYNN COUCH | § | 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 Bc considered the matter of LAVERNADENE LYNN COUCH, aka LAVERNADENE ROGERS Vocational Nurse License Number 158785, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 4528c Sec.10(a)(2)&(9), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN (effective September 1, 1995). Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on July 29, 2010, 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.

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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Texas State Technical College, Sweetwater, Texas on March 8, 1995. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 12, 1996.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes is unknown.

6. On or about August 13, 1996, Respondent submitted an Application for Initial Licensure by Examination to the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the question:

"Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor other than a minor traffic violation?"

Respondent failed to disclose the following:

On or about October 27, 1992, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of THEFT BY CHECK $28.28 (a Misdemeanor offense), in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, under Cause Number 34697. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about February 11, 1994, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of WORTHLESS CHECK (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on December 15, 1994), in the County Court of Hamilton County, Texas, under Cause Number 11,396. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states that when she applied for her Nursing License she was not aware that the charges were on her record. She apologizeS for the inconvenience that this has caused and hopes this can be resolved.

## 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 4528c Sec.10(a)(2)&(9), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN (effective September 1, 1995) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §239.11(8)&(29)(A)(effective December 1, 1995).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 158785, heretofore issued to LAVERNADENE LYNN COUCH, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

## ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH 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 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 is 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 pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty ($250) dollars. RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five 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.

(2) 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 <u>not</u> 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.*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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## 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 to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 13th day of October, 2010.

LaVernadene Lynn Couch
LAVERNADENE LYNN COUCH, Respondent

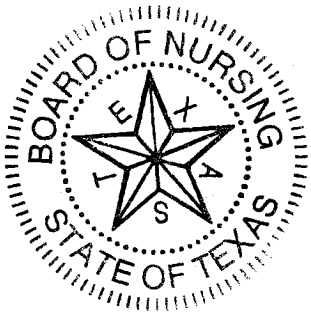
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of October, 2010.

SEAL

DIANE E. SCHNEIDER
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
December 21, 2012

Diane E. Schneider
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

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 13th day of October, 2010, by LAVERNADENE LYNN COUCH, Vocational Nurse License Number 158785, and said Order is final.




Effective this 20th day of October, 2010.

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