

Respondent disclosed that "In the late 80's, I injured my back while working at the post office. This resulted in a bulging disc. I started taking Lortab in February 2007 for back pain. I took two per day which increased to sometimes five per day until August 2007. With the help of a doctor, I tried to stop, but every time I got close to quitting, I would get a rebound headache and the cycle would start over. This went on until January 2008. I took a week off of work to try and stop, but did not succeed. It was then that I decided to seek help. I checked myself into Covenant Psych Unit. I was weaned off the pills. On January 29, 2008, I was clean. I then visited Dove Tree Ranch outside of Lubbock. I spent 4 weeks as a partial patient. During this time, I took all I could about the Twelve Steps. I completed five steps by graduation. After graduation I attended meetings almost daily until June. I attend Celebration Recovery on Thursday nights at Texas Tech University's Center for the study of addiction program. I talk with my Counselor at Dove Tree, and the Clinical Director once a month. I also see my doctor once a month."

8. Respondent, by his signature to this Order, expresses his desire to voluntarily surrender his license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
9. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
10. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to chemical dependency.

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 violation of Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(4),(5)&(10)(A).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(a), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 614408, heretofore issued to JOHN ROBERT MELTON, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.

6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 614408, heretofore issued to JOHN ROBERT MELTON, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL immediately deliver the wallet-sized license, heretofore issued to JOHN ROBERT MELTON, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying himself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and, RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
4. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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.

BALANCE OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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 violation 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 this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 17th day of June, 2010.

John Robert Melton

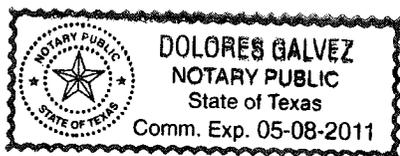
JOHN ROBERT MELTON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of June, 2010.

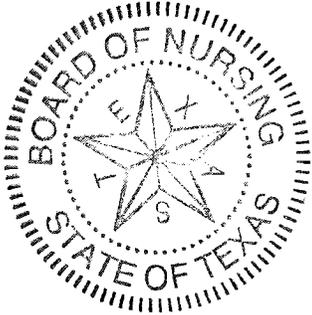
SEAL

Dolores Galvez

Notary Public in and for the State of TX



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 614408, previously issued to JOHN ROBERT MELTON.



Effective this 17TH day of June, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Katherine A. Thomas'.

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