IN THE MATTER OF	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE	§	
LICENSE NUMBER 183824	§	BOARD OF NURSING
ISSUED TO	§	
ALISON LEANN RICKS	§	ELIGIBILITY AND
	§	
	§	DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

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

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: ALISON LEANN RICKS
320 LEONARD DR.
PLEASANTON, TX 78064

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on February 12, 2013, the Texas Board of Nursing 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 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(s) to practice 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 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 183824, previously issued to ALISON LEANN RICKS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/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 12th day of February, 2013.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY: Katherine A. Thomas

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

Attachment: Formal Charge filed June 28, 2012.

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 183824
Issued to ALISON LEANN RICKS
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15th day of February, 2013, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
ALISON LEANN RICKS
320 LEONARD DR.
PLEASANTON, TX 78064

BY: Katherine A. Thomas
KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of Permanent License	§	**BEFORE THE TEXAS**
Number 183824, Issued to	§	
ALISON LEANN RICKS, Respondent	§	**BOARD OF NURSING**

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, ALISON LEANN RICKS, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 183824, 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 March 26, 2011, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on February 11, 2011, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number One (1) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

> (1) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order....

A copy of the February 11, 2011, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

CHARGE II.

On or about February 12, 2012, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on February 11, 2011, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

> (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics....

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to and including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to 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 § 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, 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.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order which is attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated February 11, 2011.

Filed this 28th day of June, 2012.

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
John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24079751
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

Attachments: Agreed Order dated February 11, 2011.

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

****

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse	§	AGREED
License Number 183824	§	
issued to ALISON LEANN RICKS	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALISON LEANN RICKS, Vocational Nurse License Number 183824, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.251, Texas Occupation code and Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on September 28, 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(s).

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 Tri City Community Hospital, Jourdanton, Texas, on December 14, 2001. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on March 1, 2002.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

December 2001 - September 2006	South Texas Regional

Jourdanton, Texas

September 2006 - February 2009 Baptist Health Systems
San Antonio, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed at Baptist Health Systems, and had been employed for approximately nine (9) months.

7. On or about July 1, 2007 through February 6, 2009, while employed with Baptist Medical Center San Antonio, Texas, Respondent practiced as a vocational nurse without a valid license. Board records indicate that Respondent's license expired on June 30, 2007. Respondent's conduct deceived residents, their families, fellow care givers, and the public in that they believed Respondent's nursing practice was in compliance with all Board Rules and Regulations.

8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states in June of 2007, she filed on-line to renew her nursing license. A few weeks later, she receive a letter informing her that her payment was returned for insufficient funds. She used her mother's bank card the following day on the site as explained in her letter. Approximately 2 weeks later, she received her printed nursing license and assumed everything went through ok. In February 2009, her boss informed her that her license was delinquent. She immediately called the Board of Nursing and followed the steps they instructed her to do. The following day, she drove up to Austin and filed all forms necessary. She has learned that it is her responsibility to continue monitoring her nursing license via the internet.

9. Formal Charges were filed on July 22, 2010.

10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 23, 2010.

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 301.251, Texas Occupation code and Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(H)&(11)(B).

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 183824,

heretofore issued to ALISON LEANN RICKS, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED 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(s) is/are 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 and fifty ($250) dollars. RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days. 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

BALANCE OF THIS 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 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 9 day of February, 2011.

Alison LeAnn Ricks

ALISON LEANN RICKS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of February, 2011.

SEAL

Sandy Haiduk

SANDY HAIDUK
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
September 26, 2014

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 ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 9th day of February, 2011, by ALISON LEANN RICKS, Vocational Nurse License Number 183824, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of February, 2011.

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