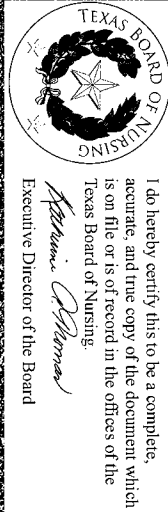


BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



In the matter of Permanent Certificate
Number 2-31792 issued to LINDA HOWDEN
BEDELL

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Linda Howden Bedell
1714 Hugs Oaks
Houston, Texas 77055

The Board of Nurse Examiners, in and for the State of Texas, in a regularly scheduled meeting, having set a Hearing to be held on May 4, 1976, to determine whether cause exists under Article 4525, V.A.T.S., to suspend or revoke License No. 2-31792 heretofore issued to LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL pursuant to Texas law, which Hearing was held on May 4, 1976 pursuant to applicable Texas law.

At the Hearing, Mrs. Eunice King, R.N., President of the Board presided and the following members were present:

Mrs. Billie Bell, R.N.
Dr. Geddes McLaughlin, R.N.
Sister Mary Vincent O'Donnell, R.N.
Dr. Barbara Woodard, R.N.

The Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas was represented by Ace Pickens, Counsel to the Board. The respondent was present at the Hearing and was represented by her Attorney, Beyrt H. David. Testimony and other evidence were received by the Board and, as a result, thereof, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. That Sworn Complaint was filed with the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in accordance with law.

2. That Notice of Hearing and Complaint were served upon LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL in accordance with law.
3. That on or about January 18, 1976, the respondent was an employee and on duty at Spring Branch Memorial Hospital in Houston, Texas. That on said occasion she was found and treated in a coma.
4. That controlled substances of the hospital in question were found in or on the person or possessions of said nurse.
5. That the controlled substances of the hospital were not properly obtained in accordance with the policy of the hospital wherein she worked.
6. That the nurse in question was found to have had recent injection marks about her buttocks.
7. That a urine toxicology report of the nurse in question taken at the time in question showed positive as to Codine and Meperidine-Demerol.
8. That the nurse in question testified she suffered from a condition of epilepsy.
9. That the nurse in question had not disclosed that condition to the hospital prior to or at any time while an employee of said hospital even though she was working in the ICU-CCU unit.
10. That on the occasion or day in question the nurse testified she had not been taking medications in accordance with medical instructions.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. That pursuant to Article 4525, V.A.T.S., the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. That the evidence presented constitutes sufficient cause pursuant to Article 4525a(6), V.A.T.S., to revoke license number 2-31792 heretofore issued to LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. The Board concludes that the conduct of the nurse with such a medical condition failing to disclose such while being employed to work in a critical area of ICU-CCU alone would be unprofessional conduct in and of itself, irrespective of other facts, to so find unprofessional conduct which in the opinion of the Board is likely to injure the public.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that License No. 2-31792, heretofore issued to LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas be and the same is hereby revoked.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the said license issued to LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL, when this decision becomes final, be immediately delivered to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that LINDA HOWDEN BEDELL, in accordance with Article 4525c shall not be eligible for reissuance of a license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas until application to the Board of Nurse Examiners is made and satisfaction of such requirements in such form and manner as the Board may require; however, in no event prior to one year from the effective date of such revocation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND THE BOARD SO FINDS, in accordance with Article 6252-13a, 16(c), V.A.T.S., that an imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare requires immediate effect to this order and the same shall be effective on the date herein below rendered and the same may not be stayed except on proper application to a District Court in accordance with Article 4525c, V.A.T.S.

Entered this 4th day of May, 1976.

Certificate No. Order of Board
In the matter of Barbara Ann
Certificate No. 2-31792
issued to Linda Howden Badell

The aforementioned Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order of the Board represent a final decision of order duly made by the Board of Nurse Examiners in and for the State of Texas, this the 4th day of May, 1976.

W. W. Wright President

Sister Mary Vincent O'Donnell Secretary

Edna M. ...
President