BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of JAIME LEE ALLEN, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure

AGREED

ELIGIBILITY ORDER

executive Director of the Board

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Endorsement Application, which has been processed as a Petition for Declaratory Order pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30, and supporting documents filed by JAIME LEE ALLEN, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(3)&(10) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

A public meeting of the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee of the Board, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, was held on March 20, 2012 at 333 Guadalupe, Tower 3, Suite 460, Austin, Texas, in which the Petition for Declaratory Order of PETITIONER was considered.

PETITIONER appeared in person. PETITIONER was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel.

Board Members in attendance were: Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC; Kristin Benton, MSN, RN; and Kathy Leader-Horn, LVN. Staff present were: Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel; Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel; John Griffith, Assistant General Counsel; Jaime Allen: 063

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Anthony L. Diggs, Director, Enforcement Division; Earl E. Stearns, CFE, Supervising Investigator;

Andrea Gonzalez, Legal Secretary; and Allison Hassinger, Legal Assistant.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about March 14, 2012, Petitioner submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Cental Texas College, Killeen Texas, on May 1, 2010.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Endorsement Application and answered "Yes" to the question which reads 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 have any pending criminal charges?
 - I. been <u>cited</u> 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?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)"

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

Jaime Allen: 063

On or about November 16, 2007, Petitioner was arrested by the San Marcos Police Department, San Marcos, Texas, for EVADING ARREST/DETENTION WITH VEHICLE, a State Jail felony offense and DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class A misdemeanor offense.

On or about November 12, 2008, Petitioner pled Guilty to EVADING ARREST/DETENTION W/VEHICLE, a State Jail felony offense committed on November 16, 2007, in the 22nd District Court of Hays County, Texas, under Cause No. CR-08-0020.

As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Petitioner were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of four (4) years. Additionally Petitioner was ordered to pay a fine and court costs. On or about November 8, 2011, Petitioner was granted an early termination from probation.

On or about November 19, 2009, the offense of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on November 16, 2007), in the County Court at Law in and for Hays County, Texas, under Cause No. 87895, was dismissed after Petitioner was found not guilty.

- In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5), Petitioner states she was studying for an 6. exam at the Texas State Library. On her way back home a friend phoned her and asked her to meet him at the square in San Marcos to hang out. After catching up for a couple of hours, Petitioner got ready to leave, realizing she did not know how to get to the highway. She called her friend on her cell phone to get directions to get out of town. In the meantime, she turned down a two way street in the roundabout and didn't realize it because of the road system. Every surrounding road was headed in the same direction, except the one she turned on. A police car pulled behind her and turned his lights on. Petitioner naturally pulled over and waited for the officer to approach her car. He did not get out of his car; instead he turned on his siren and signaled her out of the way. Petitioner drove forward and turned at the red light to get out of his way. He then turned off his lights and waited at the light behind her. Petitioner continued to drive, trying to find her way to the highway. After turning right on the last street a siren was flipped on behind her so she pulled over into the gas station and turned her car off. The officer stormed out of his car, pulled his gun, and pointed it at her through the window. Petitioner put her hands up and waited for him to signal to her to get out of the car. The officer was very rude and abrupt and did not want to hear anything she had to say. He accused her of drinking and driving and trying to avoid him with her car. He then arrested her.
- 7. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 8. Petitioner provided letters of support/recommendation to the Board from the following:
 - A letter of reference was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Tammy Niswonger, MSN, RN, Fourth Semester Faculty/Clinical Instructor, Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas.
 - A letter of recommendation was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Jason Bradshaw, RN, BSN, LT, USN (RET).
 - A letter of recommendation was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Armenda Frost, Nursing Supervisor, RN, Central Texas VA Hospital.

- A letter of reference dated November 26, 2011, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Lindsay Williams, RN, VA Hospital, Temple, Texas.
- A letter of recommendation was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Andrew Freeman.
- 9. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Endorsement Application, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- 10. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 11. The Committee considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
- 12. The Committee considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 13. Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
- 14. The Committee's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 15. Petitioner 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.
- 16. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. On or about March 14, 2012, Petitioner submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30.

- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.
- 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. The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
- 7. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that the application of PETITIONER is hereby GRANTED, and upon payment of the required fees, PETITIONER SHALL be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, which shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER'S license is encumbered by this Order, PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where PETITIONER wishes to work.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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) 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. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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. Boardapproved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64)

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HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (3) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (4) PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising Nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, but should be on the facility

grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

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

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, 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 adjudged guilty by way of conviction or deferred order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my application, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct 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, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Temporary Permit to practice nursing. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to accepting any 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(s) to practice 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 Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

Signed this 11 day of July , 2012

JAIME LEE ALLEN, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of WW

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SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

ELIZABETH ASHLEA TAYLOR
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
February 9, 2016

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the 11th day of July, 2012, by JAIME LEE ALLEN, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of August, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board