#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



**AGREED** 

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

§ § License Number 177612

issued to CORINA LOZANO GARCIA ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boa considered the matter of CORINA LOZANO GARCIA, Vocational Nurse License Number 1776 hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 26, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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 informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Kaplan College, San Antonio, 4. Texas, on August 11, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 2, 2000.
- Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown. 5.
- On or about December 23, 2008, Respondent failed to repay her Texas Guaranteed Student 6. Loan, as provided in Section 57.491 of the Texas Education Code. Respondent's failure to repay her Texas Guaranteed Student Loan may have deprived other applicants of funds for nursing school loans.

- 7. On or about November 16, 2009, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of "Driving While Intoxicated," a Class B Misdemeanor (committed on July 10, 2009) in the County Court No. 7 of El Paso County, Texas, under cause number 20090C07486. Respondent was sentenced to one hundred twenty (120) days confinement in the El Paso County Jail. The imposition of the confinement was suspended and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of twelve (12) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 8. On or about June 1, 2011, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of "Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member," a Class A Misdemeanor (committed on November 15, 2009) in the County Court No. 7 of El Paso County, Texas, under cause number 20100C02476. Adjudication of guilt was deferred and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of eleven (11) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 9. On or about June 8, 2011, Respondent submitted an online renewal application to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "no" to the following question: "Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal: "A. been convicted of a misdemeanor? C. plead 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? I. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about November 16, 2009, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of "Driving While Intoxicated," a Class B Misdemeanor (committed on July 10, 2009) in the County Court No. 7 of El Paso County, Texas, under cause number 20090C07486.

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about June 1, 2011, Respondent plead guilty to the offense of "Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member," a Class A Misdemeanor (committed on November 15, 2009) in the County Court No. 7 of El Paso County, Texas, under cause number 20100C02476.

10. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states that she was late from time to time with repayment of her loans until she lost her employment last year and was unable to make payments. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent admits to the allegations. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent states that on July 1, 2009 she received notice from the Texas Board of Nursing informing her that due to a positive background check additional information was needed regarding various criminal allegations. Respondent forwarded a print-out from the El Paso County Clerk's office dated July 13, 2009 which showed that a DWI was pending in cause number 20090C07486. Upon submitting her online renewal application on June 8, 2011, Respondent believed that all information pertaining to her DWI charge was disclosed to the Texas Board of Nursing by providing the July 13, 2009 print-out. In no way did she intend to provide false, deceptive, and/or misleading information.

- 11. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
- 12. Formal Charges were filed on December 16, 2011.
- 13. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on December 16, 2011.

# **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 a violations of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(H),(6)(I),(7)&(13).
- 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 177612, heretofore issued to CORINA LOZANO GARCIA, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Vocational Nurse License Number 177612, previously issued to CORINA LOZANO GARCIA, to practice nursing in Texas is hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is ENFORCED until Respondent completes the following requirements:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL initiate contact with the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation and make arrangements to repay the student loan within forty-five (45) days from the date of this Order. Upon approval of a repayment contract with the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation to submit verification of the defaulted loan's repayment status directly to the Board.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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 the Respondent 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 Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above requirements, the Suspension will be STAYED, and RESPONDENT will be placed on PROBATION for one (1) year with the following agreed terms of probation:

- (2) 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.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of the suspension being stayed, 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

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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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of the suspension being stayed, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension. In order to receive credit for completion of this program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.
- (6) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this

Order days of the suspension being stayed. 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. IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY 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:

- (7) RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT 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.
- (8) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

- (9) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed 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 RESPONDENT, 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 Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (10) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.
- (11) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods

of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry.

The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(12) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines Meperidine
Barbiturates Methadone
Benzodiazepines Methaqualone
Cannabinoids Opiates

Cocaine Phencyclidine Ethanol Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random

drug screening during the probation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription or failure to report for a drug screen, which may be considered the same as a positive result, will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that if during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license, the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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.

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### **RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION**

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. 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 this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and 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 /4 da	ay of _	March	_, 20 <u>/2</u> .
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CORINA LOZANO	GARO	CIA, Respon	dent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4 day of Mach, 20/1

PRISCILLA A. CARBAJAL
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
May 5, 2014

Approved as to form and substance.

Woodrow W. Bean, III, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 14 day of March, 2012.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 14th day of March, 2012, by CORINA LOZANO GARCIA, Vocational Nurse License Number 177612, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of April, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Batheria a. Thomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board