BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

δ

License Number 180436

§ AGREED

issued to LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS

§ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS, Vocational License Number 18042., hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(2),(8)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 2, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

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 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 Pittsburg Adult Education Center, Pittsburg, California, on September 24, 1998. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 7, 2001.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On October 22, 2004, Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the state of California was issued a Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians for the State of California. A copy of the Final Order of the Board dated October 22, 2004, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.

180436:117

Closp

ign file or is of record in the offices of the document of the accurate, and true copy of the document of accurate is on file or is of record in the offices of the file of the offices of the file of the office of the file of the office of the file of the file of the office of the file of the office of the file of the file of the office of the off

7. On or about March 8, 2009, Respondent submitted an online renewal document 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:

"Has <u>any</u> licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a nursing license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?"

Respondent failed to disclose that on October 22, 2004, her license to practice vocational nursing in the state of California was issued a revocation order. The Revocation was stayed and her license was placed on probation for three (3) years. A copy of the California Order is attached and incorporated as part of this Order.

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)(2),(8)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(H)&(I).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational License Number 180436, heretofore issued to LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS, 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 180436, previously issued to LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS, to practice vocational nursing in Texas is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of two (2) years with the suspension STAYED and Respondent is hereby placed on PROBATION for two (2) years with the following agreed terms of probation:

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.

- (1) 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.
- (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.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration. RESPONDENT 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. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor 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.

- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. RESPONDENT 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length of classroom time. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. RESPONDENT SHALL cause the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Board's office 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. Boardapproved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.
- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. 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 TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) 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 each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and 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 present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. 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) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The 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) For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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.

(11) 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) month period for two (2) year(s) of employment as a nurse.

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(s), 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.

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 a day of March, 2013	
ORDamas	
- LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS, Respondent	

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of March

SEAL

BRENDA FAYE MORRIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
November 6, 2013

Notary Public in and for the State of Auxas

Approved as to form and substance.

Taralynn R/Mackay, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 8th day of Mach, 20/2.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 2nd day of March, 2012, by LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS, Vocational Nurse License Number 180436, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of April, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

1 2 3 4	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California LISA S. WIGGINS, State Bar No. 168399 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004				
5	Telephone: (415) 703-5652 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480				
-6	Attorneys for Complainant				
7					
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS				
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
11		To the Holy Company (表面) 。			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	ase No. 6641			
13	LATASHAU DIANE THOMAS 12261 Fondren Road	OAH No. N2004040646			
14	Apartment 1909	TIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER			
15					
16	Vocational Nurse License No. VN 187698				
17	Respondent.				
18					
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND A	GREED by and between the parties to			
20	the above-entitled proceedings that the following matter	s are true:			
21	<u>PARTIES</u>				
22	1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N	, R.N. ("Complainant") is the Executive			
23	Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychia	tric Technicians ("Board"), Department of			
24	Consumer Affairs. She brought this action solely in her	official capacity and is represented in this			
25	matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of	of California, by Lisa S. Wiggins, Deputy			
26	Attorney General.				
27	2. Latashau Diane Thomas ("Respondent") is representing herself in this				
28	proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to b	e represented by counsel.			

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	-
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	
16	
17	
19	
20	
2.1	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	,
27	,

3. On or about March 23, 1999, the Board issued Vocational Nurse License No. VN 187698 to Respondent. The license expired on May 31, 2002, and has not been renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2001-02-0252 ("Accusation") was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on March 29, 2004. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of the Accusation is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in the Accusation. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in the Accusation.
- 9. Respondent agrees that her Vocational Nurse License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Vocational Nurse License No. VN 187698 issued to Respondent Latashau Diane Thomas is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, including all statutes and regulations governing the license. Respondent shall submit, in writing, a full and detailed account of any and all violations of the law to the Board within five (5) days of occurrence. To ensure compliance with this term, Respondent shall submit two (2) completed fingerprint cards and the applicable fingerprint processing fees to the Board within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the decision, unless the Board determines that fingerprint cards were already submitted by Respondent as part of her licensure application process effective July 1, 1996. Respondent shall also submit a recent 2" x 2" photograph of herself within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the decision.

2. Compliance With Probation Program And Quarterly Report Requirements. Respondent shall fully comply with terms and conditions of the probation established by the Board and shall cooperate with the representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Probation Program.

Respondent shall submit quarterly reports, under penalty of perjury, in a form required by the Board. The reports shall certify and document compliance with all the conditions of probation.

- 3. Notification of Address And Telephone Number Change(s). Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, within five (5) days of a change of residence or mailing address, of her new address and any change in her work and/or home telephone numbers.
- 4. Notification of Residency or Practice Outside of State. Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, within five (5) days, if she leaves California to reside or practice in another state.

Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, within five (5) days, upon her return to California.

The period of probation shall not run during the time Respondent is residing or practicing outside California.

5. Notification to Employer(s). When currently employed or applying for employment in any capacity in any health care profession, Respondent shall notify her employer of the probationary status of Respondent's license. This notification to the Respondent's current health care employer shall occur no later than the effective date of the Decision. Respondent shall notify any prospective health care employer of her probationary status with the Board prior to accepting such employment. This notification shall be by providing the employer or prospective employer with a copy of the Board's Accusation and Disciplinary Decision.

The Health Care Profession includes, but is not limited to: Licensed Vocational Nurse, Psychiatric Technician, Registered Nurse, Medical Assistant, Paramedic, Emergency Medical Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, Home Health Aide, and all other ancillary technical health care positions.

Respondent shall cause each health care employer to submit quarterly reports to the Board. The reports shall be on a form provided by the Board, shall include a performance evaluation and such other information as may be required by the Board.

Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, within five (5) days of any change in employment status. Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, if she is terminated from any nursing or health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination.

- 6. Interviews/meetings With Board Representative(s). Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board, or its designated representatives.
- 7. Employment Requirements and Limitations. During probation, Respondent shall work in her licensed capacity in the State of California. This practice shall consist of no less than six (6) continuous months and of no less than twenty (20) hours per week.

While on probation, Respondent shall not work for a nurses' registry or in any private duty position, a temporary nurse placement agency, as a faculty member in an accredited or approved school of nursing, or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education course except as approved, in writing, by the Board. Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined work site(s) and shall not work in a float capacity except as approved, in writing, by the Board.

8. Supervision Requirements. Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board, before commencing any employment, regarding the level of supervision provided to Respondent while employed as a licensed vocational nurse or psychiatric technician.

Respondent shall not function as a charge nurse (i.e., work in any healthcare setting as the person who oversees or directs licensed vocational nurses, psychiatric technicians, certified nursing assistants or unlicensed assistive personnel) or supervising psychiatric technician during the period of probation except as approved, in writing, by the Board.

9. Completion of Educational Course(s). Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) substantially related to the violation(s) no later

than the end of the first year of probation; or Respondent shall be suspended from practice, until she has enrolled in and has successfully completed the specified coursework.

The coursework shall be in addition to that required for license renewal. The Board shall notify Respondent of the course content and number of contact hours required. Within thirty (30) days of the Board's written notification of assigned coursework, Respondent shall submit a written plan to comply with this requirement. The Board shall approve such plan prior to enrollment in any course of study.

Upon successful completion of the course, Respondent shall cause the instructor to furnish proof to the Board within thirty (30) days of course completion.

10. Maintenance of Valid License. Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active current license with the Board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled.

Should Respondent's license, by operation of law or otherwise, expire, upon renewal or reinstatement Respondent's license shall be subject to any and all terms of this probation not previously satisfied.

11. Cost Recovery Requirements. Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$4,200.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

The Board may conditionally renew or reinstate, for a maximum of one year, the license of any Respondent who demonstrates financial hardship. Respondent shall enter into a formal agreement with the Board to reimburse the unpaid costs within that one year period.

Except as provided above, the Board shall not renew or reinstate the license of any Respondent who has failed to pay all the costs as directed in a Decision.

12. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation) of the Respondent's license. If during

the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke has been filed against the Respondent's license or the Anomey General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against the Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board. Upon successful completion of probation, the Respondent's license will be fully restored.

13. Take And Pass Licensure Examination. Prior to resuming practice in California, Respondent shall take and pass the licensure exam currently required of new applicants for the license possessed by Respondent. Respondent shall pay the established examination fees. All standard terms or any other terms of probation shall be tolled until Respondent has successfully passed the licensure examination and notice of licensure has been mailed to Respondent by the Board.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Vocational Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians.

DATED: July 13, 2004

LATASHAU DIANE T

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: July 13, 2004

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California



Attorneys for Complainant

DOJ Docket/Matter ID Number: 03595110-SF2003200630 40029025.wpd

DECISION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS

The foregoing Stipulation in Settlement, in Case No. 6641, is hereby adopted as the Order of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians for the State of California on this 22nd day of September, 2004. This Decision and Order shall become effective on the 22nd day of October, 2004.

Sister Marie de Porres Taylor

President

Exhibit A Accusation No. 6641

] 2 3 4 5	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California LISA S. WIGGINS, State Bar No. 168399 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-5652 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480			
6	Attorneys for Complainant			
7				
8 9 10	BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6641		
12	LATASHAU THOMAS a.k.a. LATASHAU DIANNE THOMAS	ACCUSATION		
13	12261 Fondren Road Apartment 1909			
14	Houston, Texas 77035			
15	Vocational Nurse License No. VN 187698			
16	Respondent.			
17				
18	Complainant alleges:			
19	PARTI	<u> </u>		
20	1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D.,	M.S.N., R.N. ("Complainant") brings this		
21	Accusation solely in her official capacity as the E	executive Officer of the Board of Vocational		
22	Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, Department o	f Consumer Affairs.		
23	2. On or about March 23, 1999, t	he Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric		
24	Technicians issued Vocational Nurse License Nu	mber VN 187698 to Latashau Thomas, a.k.a.		
25	Latashau Diane Thomas, ("Respondent"). The Voca	ational Nurse License expired on May 31, 2002,		
26	and has not been renewed.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
27	JURISDIC	TION		
28	3. This Accusation is brought	before the Board of Vocational Nursing and		
	1			

"As set forth in Section 2878 of the Code, gross negligence is deemed unprofessional conduct and is a ground for disciplinary action. As used in Section 2878 'gross negligence' means a substantial departure from the standard of care which, under similar circumstances, would have ordinarily been exercised by a competent licensed vocational nurse, and which has or could have resulted in harm to the consumer. An exercise of so slight a degree of care as to justify the belief that there was a conscious disregard or indifference for the health, safety, or welfare of the consumer shall be considered a substantial departure from the above standard of care."

10. Business and Professions Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

- 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business and Professions Code section 2878(a) and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 2518.6 (a) in that, while working as a licensed vocational nurse at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center in Martinez, California, ("CCRMC") Respondent failed to safeguard her patient's/client's health and safety. The circumstances are that, during the two weeks Respondent was employed at CCRMC, the following occurred:
 - a. Respondent reported to work late on three occasions:
 - (1) On or about September 13, 2000 30 minutes late;
 - (2) On or about September 14, 2000 40 minutes late; and
 - (3) On or about October 26, 2000 30 minutes late.
- b. On or about September 26, 2000, Respondent took a 55 minute break from her shift, when her break allowance is 30 minutes;
- c. Respondent fell asleep during shift reports, and failed to write down relevant data on her patients;

, I	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
2	DATED:, 2004.
3	
4	
5	TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
6	Executive Officer Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
7	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
8	Complainant
9	03595110-SF2003200630
10	40001015.wpd
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	