# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Vocational Nurse § AGREED

License Number 195308 §

issued to DEIDRIE KELLY BYROM § ORDER

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

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered matter of DEIDRIE KELLY BYROM, Vocational Nurse License Number 195308, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on October 7, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, 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 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 Lamar University, Port Arthur, Texas, on August 13, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 30, 2004.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

- 6. On or about August, 28, 1975, Respondent was convicted of POSSESSION OF EXPLOSIVE WEAPON (a felony offense), in the Criminal District Court of Jefferson County, Texas, under Cause No. 32707. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Texas Department of Corrections for a period of five (5) years; however, imposition of the sentence was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states: She was seventeen (17) years old and under the influence of her middle-aged boyfriend. She pled guilty to the charges and received five (5) years probation. She was released from probation after serving one (1) year because she assisted law enforcement in an on-going investigation.
- 8. On or about June 10, 2004, Respondent submitted an Application for Initial Licensure by NCLEX-PN Examination for Licensed Vocational Nurses to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which Respondent provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that, Respondent answered "No" to the question: "Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrest (excluding minor traffic violations)? This includes expunged offense and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUI's, DWI's, PI's must be report and are not considered minor traffic violations. (one time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] do not need to be disclosed, therefore, you may answer "No". If you have two or more MIP's or MIC's, you must answer "Yes".)"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about August, 28, 1975, Respondent was convicted of POSSESSION OF EXPLOSIVE WEAPON, a felony offense, in the Criminal District Court of Jefferson County, Texas, under Cause No. 32707.

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about February 25, 1999, Respondent pled Nolo Contendere and was adjudged guilty by the court of DRIVING-RECKLESS, a misdemeanor offense committed on May 16, 1998, in the County Court at Law No. 3, Jefferson County, Texas, under Cause No. 210301.

9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states: She was stopped by police who stated she was driving erratically, on her way home from an emergency dental appointment. Due to the late hour and lingering pain, she was verbally abusive to the officer, who then arrested her for DUI. She took the case to trial to prove that she was not under the influence. Just before jury selection, the District Attorney offered her a misdemeanor reckless driving charge. She accepted the charge, and paid a fine of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750).

She did not disclose the August 28, 1975 conviction because she was a minor and she thought the records were sealed. In addition, she also states she did not disclose the February 25, 1999 conviction because she spent two challenging years in nursing school unaware that a misdemeanor offense could prevent her from becoming a nurse. She panicked and failed to truthfully answer the question on her initial application.

## 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 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I).
- 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 195308, heretofore issued to DEIDRIE KELLY BYROM, 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 RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS AND 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, 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, 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 that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1000). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within ninety (90) 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.
- (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 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. 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.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

(3) 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.

Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

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 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 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 19th day of <u>Secenther</u>, 2011.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19 day of Lecember, 20//.

**SEAL** 

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the \_19th\_day of <u>December</u>, 20\_11, by DEIDRIE KELLY BYROM, Vocational Nurse License Number 195308, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of February, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board