BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Registered Nurse

AGREED

License Number 579661

issued to KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boar considered the matter of KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES, Registered Nurse License Number 579661, 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 December 2, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director.

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).
- Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and 2. agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- Respondent received a Diploma in Nursing from Aberdeen Hospital School of Nursing, New 4. Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Canada, on August 1, 1984. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on May 13, 1992.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history is unknown.
- On or about December 20, 2005, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document 6. Registered Nurse to the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the question: "Have

you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or noto 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) since the last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt."

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about October 21, 2005, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on October 20, 2005, in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 11 of Harris County, Texas, under Cause No. 1334284.

- 7. On or about December 2, 2007, Respondent submitted a License Renewal Form to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she answered "No" to the 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?
 - 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 cited or charged with any violation of the law?
 - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgement/punishment/action?"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about August 17, 2007, Respondent was arrested by the Sugar Land Police Department, Sugar Land, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 133355, for DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID (a Class A misdemeanor offense). This case was still pending at the time of the renewal.

Respondent also failed to disclose that on or about August 17, 2007, Respondent was arrested by the Sugar Land Police Department, Sugar Land, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 120215 for THEFT PROP >=\$20 <\$500 BY CHECK (a Class B misdemeanor offense). This case was still pending at the time of the renewal.

8. In response to Finding of Fact Numbers Six (6) and Seven (7), Respondent states: She apologizes for failing to realize that when she went to court and paid tickets that they would result in misdemeanor convictions that would be on her permanent record and that they needed to be reported to the Board.

Additionally, the difficulties that resulted in the convictions for traffic violations snowballed

from a ticket that she paid not realizing she needed to make additional payments to the State. Failure to do this resulted in her license being suspended of which she was unaware. She has been diagnosed as having Attention Deficient Disorder and has been under the care of a psychiatrist for the past several years. Unfortunately this causes her lots of stress which also caused her difficulty in keeping up with mail, correspondence and payments.

- 9. Formal Charges were filed on October 12, 2011.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on October 13, 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 violation 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 Registered Nurse License Number 579661, heretofore issued to KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION 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 State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) 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:

http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500). 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, 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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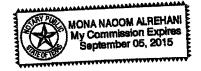
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 20	_ day of \(\sqrt{\langeanuary} \)	
Kum	Chustine	Onchenes
KAREN CHRIS	TINE DESCHENES,	, Respondent
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of January, 2012.

SEAL



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 30th day of January, 2012, by KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES, Registered Nurse License Number 579661, and said Order is final.



Effective this 3rd day of February, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

In the Matter of Permanent License	8	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Number 579661, Issued to	8	
KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES, Respondent	§	BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, KAREN CHRISTINE DESCHENES, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 579661, which is in current status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about December 20, 2005, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document Registered Nurse to the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she 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) since the last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt,"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about October 21, 2005, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED (a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on October 20, 2005), in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 11 of Harris County, Texas, under Cause No. 1334284.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I).

CHARGE II.

On or about December 2, 2007, Respondent submitted a License Renewal Form to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she answered "No" to the 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?
- 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 cited 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?"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about August 17, 2007, Respondent was arrested by the Sugar Land Police Department, Sugar Land, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 133355, for DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID (a Class A misdemeanor offense). This case was still pending at the time of the renewal.

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The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Lying and Falsification, which can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

	Filed this	12-th	day	of	October.	, 20) (C
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TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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