BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

§ AGREED

License Number 183284

issued to SANDRA KAY BAKER

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boa considered the matter of SANDRA KAY BAKER, Vocational Nurse License Number 183284, 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 11, 2010, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

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 TSTC Breckenridge, Breckenridge, Texas, on December 18, 2001. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on January 31, 2002.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

Executive Director of the Board

6. On or about January 12, 2006, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document Licensed Vocational Nurse to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the question:

"Have you ever been convicted, adjudicated 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 arrests (excluding minor traffic violations) since your last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUIs, DWIs, and PI's must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. (One time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] does not need to be disclosed; therefore, you may answer "No." If you have two or more MIPs or MICs, you must answer "Yes".)"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about June 15, 2005, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of THEFT BY CHECK (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on December 4, 2003), in the 90th District Court of Stephens County, Texas, under Cause Number 30,394.

- 7. On or about August 10, 2009, Respondent was arrested by the Eastland County Sheriff's Department Eastland, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause Number 08-139 with THEFT BY CHECK \$20 OR MORE, BUT LESS THAN \$500 (a Class B Misdemeanor offense). This matter is currently pending in the County Court of Eastland, Texas.
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Numbers Six (6) and Seven (7), Respondent states: It was never her intention to deceive the Board of nursing in order to keep her license. In her mind by pleading guilty and paying her court costs and fines that was it. She didn't know it meant she was convicted. She admits these were bad decisions on her part. When these checks were written and she got the notice that she had insufficient funds, she trusted the man that she was with at that time and gave him the money to pick up the checks. She believed him when he said he did. She is not using that as an excuse. She is just telling why it went as far as it did. She doesn't feel like these bad decisions in anyway affect her ability to be a good nurse. In her 10 years of being a nurse she has learned so much about healthcare and people and the affect that healthcare professionals have on patients and society as a whole. She no longer has a checking account nor does she want one. As a single mom this is the only way she has to support herself and her 3 children. Please give her the chance to show the Board that her future decisions will be better than her past decisions.
- 9. Formal Charges were filed on July 23, 2010.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 29, 2010.

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 183284, heretofore issued to SANDRA KAY BAKER, 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 a REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH 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 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, 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 two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars. RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days. 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 day of 1081,2011.
SANDRA KAY BAKER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th d

day of October,

C. ATKINS
HOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS
COMMENCE STATE

Notary Public in and for the State of 1exas

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 19th day of October, 2011, by SANDRA KAY BAKER, Vocational Nurse License Number 183284, and said Order is final.

Effective this 27th day of October, 2011.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board