### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Registered Nurse

§ AGREED

License Number 753207 issued to Tracey Lynn Jones

§ ORDER

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Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boconsidered the matter of TRACEY LYNN JONES, Registered Nurse License Number 753207, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(9)&(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 19, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, 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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from San Jose State University, San Jose, California, on May 29, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 14, 2008.
- 5. Respondent's complete professional nursing employment history is unknown.

6. On or about March 3, 2011, Respondent submitted a Texas Board of Nursing-Online Renewal Document-Registered Nurse, in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "no" to the following question, in pertinent part:

"Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:

h. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges? "

On or about March 2, 2011, Respondent was arrested by Webster Police Department, Webster, Texas, for POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, NAMELY, FENTANYL, 1>=1G<4G.

Respondent's conduct was deceiving to the Board and may have affected their decision to renew her license.

- 7. On or about June 30, 2011, while participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of alcohol in that she submitted a specimen for a drug screen that produced a positive result for alcohol metabolites(ETG 5915 ng/mL and ETS 411 ng/mL). The use of alcohol by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurses ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 8. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Finding of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 9. 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.
- 10. Respondent's conduct described in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7) resulted from Respondent's dependency on chemicals.
- 11. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)&(B),(4),(5),(6)(A),(H)&(I) and (10)(D).
- 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 753207, heretofore issued to TRACEY LYNN JONES, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

## <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT, in lieu of the sanction of Revocation under Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.
- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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 multistate licensure 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, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in 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, SHOULD RESPONDENT be convicted of the offense as outlined in Finding of Fact Number Six (6), said judicial action will result in further disciplinary action including Revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

# 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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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  $\underline{\underline{\qquad}}$  day of  $\underline{\underline{\qquad}}$ ,  $\underline{20}$ .

TRACEY LYNN JONES, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

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**SEAL** 

Notary Public in and for the State of



WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 9th day of December, 2011, by TRACEY LYNN JONES, Registered Nurse License Number 753207, and said Order is final.



Entered and effective this 14th day of December, 2011.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board