



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.
Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse § AGREED
License Number 639762 and §
Vocational Nurse License Number 141707 §
issued to PAUL MCCOPPIN § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAUL MCCOPPIN, Registered Nurse License Number 639762 and Vocational Nurse License Number 141707, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 19, 2012, 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 licenses.
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. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in delinquent status.
4. Respondent received Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Lamar University, Orange, Texas, on December 18, 1992. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 25, 1993. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Lamar University, Port Arthur, Texas, on August 1, 1996. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 29, 1997.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1993 -1997	LVN	Herman Baptist Hospital Beaumont, TX
1993 - 2009	LVN/RN	Med Force, Inc. Beaumont, TX
1997 - 1998	LVN/RN	Van Guard Health Care Dallas, TX
1998 - 2000	RN	Park Place Medical Center Port Arthur, TX
2002 - 2003	RN	Legacy of Life San Antonio, TX
03/08 - 05/08	RN	Methodist Dallas Medical Center Dallas, TX
06/08 - 08/08	RN	Exeter Hospital Exeter, NH
08/09 - 05/10	RN	Quality Care Services, Inc. Beaumont, TX
06/10 - Current	Unknown	

6. On or about August 13, 2001, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing, requiring Respondent to participate and successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated August 13, 2001, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
7. On or about February 24, 2000, Respondent entered a plea of Nolo Contendere and was subsequently Convicted of DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF LIQUOR - DWI (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on September 7, 1999), which was filed in the County Court of Law No. 3 of Jefferson County, Beaumont, Texas, under Cause No. 214,371. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was placed on probation for a period of one (1) year. Additionally, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

8. On or about February 24, 2000, Respondent entered a plea of Nolo Contendere and was subsequently Convicted of ARREST - EVADING (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on September 7, 1999), which was filed in the County Court of Law No. 3 of Jefferson County, Beaumont, Texas, under Cause No. 214,392. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was placed on probation for a period of one (1) year. Additionally, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
9. On or about August 5, 2010, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was subsequently Convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on February 15, 2010), which was filed in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Orange, Texas, under Cause No. C101231. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
10. On or about March 29, 2012, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID WITH PREVIOUS CONVICTION/SUSPENSION WITHOUT FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (a Misdemeanor offense committed on December 9, 2011), which was filed in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, under Cause No. 12-0030. As a result of the guilty plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt, and was placed on community supervision for a period of twelve (12) months. Additionally, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
11. In response to Finding of Facts Numbers (Seven) through Ten (10), Respondent admits to the aforementioned criminal offenses. Respondent states that he lost almost everything after Hurricane Ike and has struggled to recover from his loss.

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)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(13).
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 639762 and Vocational Nurse License Number 141707, heretofore issued to PAUL MCCOPPIN, including revocation of Respondent's licenses 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 WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, 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 licenses 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, 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.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

(2) 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>*

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 STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) 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:

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S licenses. 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 stipulations on RESPONDENT'S licenses. 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.

(4) 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.

(5) 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.

(6) 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 one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

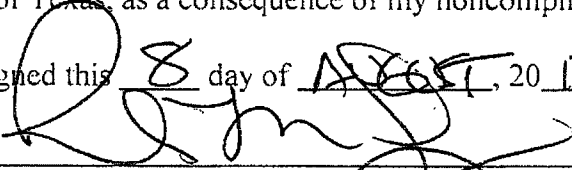
IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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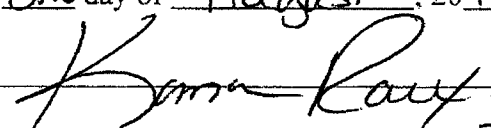
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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 8 day of August, 2012.


PAUL MCCOPPIN, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of August, 2012
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 8th day of August, 2012, by PAUL MCCOPPIN, Registered Nurse License Number 639762 and Vocational Nurse License Number 141707, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of September, 2012.



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 639762 § AGREED
issued to PAUL MCCOPPIN § ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAUL MCCOPPIN, License Number 639762, 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 conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 7, 2001, 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.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, 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 an Associate Degree in Nursing from Lamar University, Port Arthur, Texas, on August 1, 1996. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 29, 1997.
5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

5/97-6/98	Staff Nurse Critical Care	Med Force, Inc. Beaumont, Texas
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Respondent's professional employment history continued:

6/98-4/00	Staff Nurse ICU	Park Place Medical Center Port Arthur, Texas
4/00- Present	Agency Nurse	Unknown Location

6. At the time of the initial incident Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit of Park Place Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) year and four (4) months.
7. On or about October 21, 1999, while employed at Park Place Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Marijuana as evidenced by a positive drug screen for Marijuana. Possession of Marijuana is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Marijuana by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's 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. On or about February 28, 2000, while employed at Park Place Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Codeine as evidenced by a positive drug screen for Codeine. Possession of Codeine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Codeine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's 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.
9. On or about April 6, 2000, while employed at Park Place Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Oxazepam as evidenced by a positive drug screen for Oxazepam. Possession of Oxazepam is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Oxazepam by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's 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.

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10. On or about December 13, 2000, while employed at Park Place Medical Center, Port Arthur, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Marijuana as evidenced by a positive drug screen for Marijuana. Possession of Marijuana is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Marijuana by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's 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.
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).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 639762, heretofore issued to PAUL MCCOPPIN, including revocation of Respondent's professional license 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.

ORDER

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 and be accepted into the TPAPN.

(2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN contract to the Board of Nurse Examiners.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Board of Nurse Examiners of any violation of the TPAPN contract.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.* and this Order.

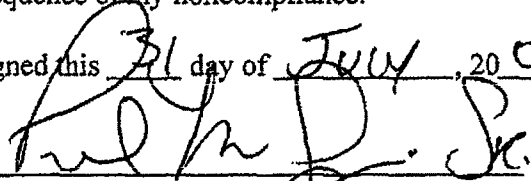
IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is 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 State of Texas 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 revocation of Respondent's license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

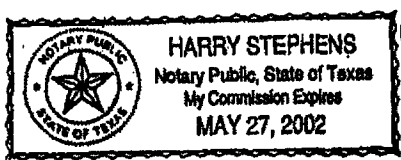
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions 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 Board of Nurse Examiners, 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

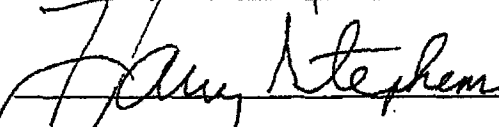
Signed this 31 day of July, 2001.


PAUL MCCOPPIN, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31 day of July, 2001.

SEAL





Notary Public in and for the State of _____

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 31 day of July, 2001, by PAUL MCCOPPIN, License Number 639762, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 13 day of August, 2001.



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board