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Texas Poard of Nursing.

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse \$ License Number 590600 \$ issued to LINDA MORRIS \$

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 590600, issued to LINDA MORRIS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.
- 3. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, Mississippi, on May 1, 1970. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 8, 1993.
- 4. Respondent's complete professional nursing employment history includes:

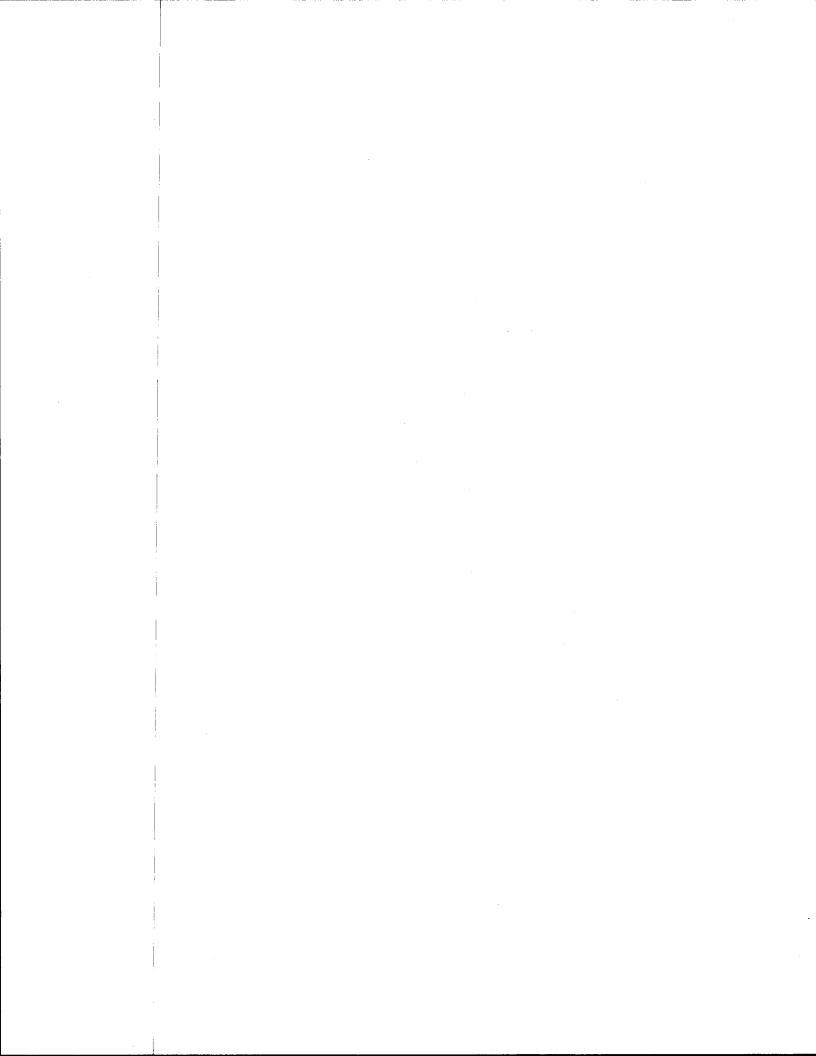
05/1970-1992 RN Greenwood LeFlore Hospital Greenwood, Mississippi

1993-1998 RN Kelly Care Home Dallas, Texas

Respondent's complete professional nursing employment history includes(continued):

1993-1998	RN	Methodist Dallas Medical Center Dallas, Texas
1998-2000	RN	Medical City of Dallas Dallas, Texas
08/00-02/01	RN	IHS Hospital at Plano Plano, Texas
08/00-09/09	RN	Heritage Place of Mesquite Mesquite, Texas
2006-2008	RN	Reliable Home Healthcare Services Mesquite, Texas
10/09-Present	Unknown	

- 5. At the time of the initial incident as stated in Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Heritage Place of Mesquite, Mesquite, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately nine (9) years.
- 6. The Board provided Respondent notice of the following allegations:
 - On or about September 2, 2009, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Heritage Place of Mesquite, Mesquite Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydrocodone from the facility or patients thereof or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Additionally, when questioned, Respondent admitted to taking Hydrocodone and produced them from her pocket.
 - On or about September 2, 2009, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Heritage Place of Mesquite, Mesquite Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Hydrocodone in that she admitted to taking "about ten over a six hour period".
 - On or about September 2, 2009, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Heritage Place of Mesquite, Mesquite Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she exhibited signs of impaired behavior including feeling dizzy and lightheaded. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.



- On or about September 4, 2009, through September 21, 2009, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she entered detox at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, Dallas, Texas, then was admitted to Hickory Trail Hospital Adult Program for Chemical Dependency until September 21, 2009, when she enrolled with Lifenet Community Behavioral Healthcare Intensive Outpatient classes. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
- 7. On May 20, 2011, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's notarized statement, dated May 11, 2011, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
- 8. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
- 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.

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.
- The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)&(B),(4),(5),(10)(A)&(11)(B).
- 4. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 5. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
- 6. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.452 (b), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TAC§§213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 590600, heretofore issued to LINDA MORRIS, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title of registered nurse or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and, RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
- 3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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

Effective this 29th day of June, 2011.

By:

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Karni a. Ohm

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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Linda Morris 500 West Cartwright Road #413 Balch Springs, Texas 75180 Texas Registered Nurse License #590600

Voluntary Surrender Statement

May ________, 2011

Dear Texas Board of Nursing:
I no longer desire to be licensed as a professional nurse. Accordingly, I voluntarily surrender my license/licenses
to practice in Texas. I waive representation by counsel and consent to the entry of an Order which outlines
requirements for reinstatement of my license. I understand that I will be required to comply with the Board's Rules
and Regulations in effect at the time I submit any petition for reinstatement.
Signature And Motros Date 5 11 3011 Texas Nursing License Number/s 590 600
The State of Texas
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this date personally appeared Linda Morris who, being duly sworn by me, stated that she executed the above for the purpose therein contained and that she understood same.
Sworn to before me the $11^{1/2}$ day of 901 , 901 .
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
DORIS DIANA MCGEE My Commission Expires September 17, 2012