BEFORE THE BOAR OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



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Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of BOBBY ALLAN JAMES APPLICANT for Eligibility for Licensure

ORDER OF CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as Board, considered the Application for Licensure by Examination and supporting documents filed by BOBBY ALLAN JAMES, hereinafter referred to as APPLICANT, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and APPLICANT's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that APPLICANT may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to the Occupations Code 301.452(b)(3)&(10).

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on October 17, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about April 1, 2009, Applicant submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 2. Applicant waived representation, notice, administrative proceedings, and judicial review.
- 3. Applicant received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Texas Careers Institute, San Antonio, Texas, in April 2009.
- 4. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to the question which reads: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:

- 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 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?"
- 5. Applicant disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On September 13, 1999, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the Class B misdemeanor offense of Driving While Intoxicated, Cause No. 50403, in the County Court at Law of San Patricio County, Texas. Applicant was placed on probation for eighteen (18) months. On January 14, 2000, Applicant was issued an Order Revoking Probation and sentencing him to ninety (90) days confinement in the San Patricio County Jail.
 - B. On December 16, 1999, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the Felony offense of Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle, Cause No. 99-09-0155-CRA, in the 81st/218th Judicial District Court of Atascosa County, Texas. Applicant was placed on probation for three (3) years. On February 7, 2003, Applicant completed all terms of probation.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5), Applicant stated he was young, impressionable, and at the time had no clue that his reckless behavior would make such an impact on his future. Applicant states in 1999 he had two convictions, one a misdemeanor and one a felony. The first conviction of Driving While Intoxicated occurred while he was driving home from Corpus Christi after a night of visiting with some friends that were in college. Applicant was drinking that night at a party. He was pulled over for an illegal left turn. The officer felt he was too intoxicated to make the long drive home and arrested him. The second offense of Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle, "sounds a lot worse than it actually was." Applicant states a girl he knew let him take her car from a party they were at. He never returned the car, her Dad reported the car stolen. Applicant does not think the girl ever told her dad she allowed Applicant to take the car.
- 8. Licensure of Applicant poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public, provided Applicant complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.

- 9. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Applicant.
- 10. Applicant has sworn that his past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Applicant presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 11. Applicant has been advised that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect, or misleading will be considered and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through misrepresentation.
- 12. On October 17, 2009, the Executive Director considered evidence of Applicant's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Applicant currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Texas Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. Applicant has submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 3. Applicant's criminal history reflects criminal conduct which is grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. Applicant shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code.
- 5. The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 6. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform his conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.

<u>ORDER</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, BOBBY ALLAN JAMES, APPLICANT, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination). APPLICANT SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that APPLICANT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Vocational 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 APPLICANT's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while APPLICANT's license is encumbered by this Order the APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that APPLICANT, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-PN®, shall be issued a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas which shall bear the appropriate notation and APPLICANT SHALL be subject to the following stipulations.

(1) APPLICANT SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. APPLICANT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is <u>not</u> 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. APPLICANT 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 APPLICANT'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. IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD APPLICANT PRACTICE AS A VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPLICANT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND APPLICANT 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 VOCATIONAL NURSE (VN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) APPLICANT SHALL notify all employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on APPLICANT's license. APPLICANT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (3) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE each employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Applicant by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (4) APPLICANT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as APPLICANT, 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 Applicant is currently working. APPLICANT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). APPLICANT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. APPLICANT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (5) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Petitioner by the Board, periodic reports as to APPLICANT's capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the APPLICANT. 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, PETITIONER SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Applicant in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past criminal conduct, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing from each jurisdiction in which I have been adjudged guilty by way of conviction or deferred order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Application for Licensure by Examination, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of conviction, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

In connection with my application, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code, Section 301.452(a), (b) and (c), Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rules 213.27, 213.28, and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate Vocational Nurse Permit to practice. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to registering for the NCLEX-PN® Examination or accepting any permit or license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Texas Board of Nursing enter this Order.

Signed this 17 day of December, 2009.

Bolling faces
BOBBY AZLAN JAMES, APPLICANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17 day of December, 2009.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS



| WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing doe |
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| hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the <u>17th</u> day or |
| December , 2009 , by BOBBY ALLAN JAMES, APPLICANT, for Licensure b |
| Examination, and said Order is final. |
| |
| Entered this 21^{st} day of 32010 . |

BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

By:

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf of said Board