



accurate, and true copy of the documents on file or is of record in the office.

Z Texas Board of Nursing.

Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX 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 ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, 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 have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code.

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 15, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about July 22, 2008, 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 hearing, and judicial review.
- 3. Applicant received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Grayson County College, Van Alstyne, Texas, in August 2008.
- 4. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: "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 February 12, 2007, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the misdemeanor offense of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Cause No. CR-2004-00468, in the Justice Court, Douglas Precinct, Cochise County, State of Arizona. Applicant was assessed a fine.
  - B. On June 25, 2009, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the misdemeanor offense of Driving While Intoxicated, Cause No. 005-89347-08, in the County Court at Law No. 5 of Collin County, Texas. Applicant was sentenced to one hundred twenty (120) days confinement in the Collin County Jail, with imposition of sentence suspended and Petitioner being placed on community supervision for a period of fifteen (15) months.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: "Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?"
- 8. A letter was submitted to the Board by Robert J. Hernandez, M.D., Primary Medicine of Sherman, Sherman, Texas, dated October 8, 2008. Dr. Hernandez states that Applicant has been his patient since August 2, 2008, for the diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder. During this time Applicant has shown no signs or symptoms of manic episodes and reports taking the prescribed Lithium as ordered.
- 9. The safety of patients and the public requires that all persons licensed to practice nursing be fit, and able to consistently practice nursing in autonomous roles under demanding and stressful conditions.

- 10. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
- 11. Applicant has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Application for Licensure by Examination, his past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Applicant presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with the Board's character requirements in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27.
- 12. On February 15, 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.
- 13. In consideration of Applicant's past conduct and subsequent evidence of rehabilitation, the Executive Director finds that Petitioner should be declared conditionally eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses.
- 14. Applicant'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. 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 shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452, Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. The Texas Board of Nursing may license an individual who has a history of substance abuse, after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.29, the Board determines the Applicant does not currently pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a Applicant, upon initial licensure as a registered 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

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, 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 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 Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.1 et seq., and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that APPLICANT, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-PN®, shall be issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IN ADDITION, IT IS THEREFORE FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that APPLICANT, upon initial licensure, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for APPLICANT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- (1) APPLICANT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days of initial licensure, apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) payable to TPAPN.
- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, APPLICANT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN contract to the Texas Board of Nursing.

- (3) APPLICANT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term.
- (4) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN contract.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Applicant's multistate licensure privileges, 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, 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 AGREED, SHOULD APPLICANT 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 a APPLICANT's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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## APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Applicant in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all relevant information in conformity with Rule 213.29 at Texas Administrative Code. 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 set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate 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 25 day of September, 2009.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of 4cot.

Notary Public in and for the State of 18406

GINGER K GARDNER **Notary Public** STATE OF TEXAS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the <u>25<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>September</u>, <u>2009</u>, by ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, APPLICANT, for Licensure by Examination, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 6th day of October, 2009.

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

of said Board