



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.
William P. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse
License Number 643639
issued to CRISS HELMS

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REINSTATEMENT
AGREED ORDER

On this day came to be considered by the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, the Petition for Reinstatement of Registered Nurse License Number 643 held by CRISS HELMS, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was held on June 23, 2009, at the office of the Texas Board of Nursing, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code.

Petitioner appeared in person. Petitioner was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Mary Beth Thomas, PhD, RN, Director of Nursing, Executive Director's Designee; Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director of Enforcement; and Diane E. Burell, Investigator.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
3. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Petitioner was originally licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 22, 1997.

4. Petitioner's professional nursing employment history includes:

1997 - 1999	Staff Nurse	Baptist Medical Center San Antonio, Texas
1999	Staff Nurse	Southwest Texas Medical Center San Antonio, Texas
2000	Staff Nurse	Brackenridge Medical Center Austin, Texas
2000	Staff Nurse	Orange City Hospital Orange City, Florida
2000	Staff Nurse	Orlando Regional Medical Center Orlando, Florida
2001	Staff Nurse	South Austin Hospital Austin, Texas
2002	Staff Nurse	Select Specialty Hospital Houston, Texas
2003	Staff Nurse	Salinas Valley Medical Center Salinas, California
2003	Staff Nurse	Sharp Healthcare San Diego, California
2004	Staff Nurse	Tucson Medical Center Tucson, Arizona
2004	Staff Nurse	Banner Hospital Phoenix, Arizona
2004	Staff Nurse	Chandler Regional Medical Center Phoenix, Arizona
2004	Staff Nurse	John C. Lincoln Hospital Phoenix, Arizona
2005	Staff Nurse	Del Webb Memorial Hospital Phoenix, Arizona

Petitioner's professional nursing employment history continued:

2005	Staff Nurse	Queen of the Valley Hospital Napa, California
2005 - 2006	Staff Nurse	Dominican Hospital Santa Cruz, California
2006	Staff Nurse	San Luis Obispo Hospital Obispo, California
2007	Staff Nurse	Community Memorial Hospital Ventura, California
2008 - present	Not employed in nursing	

5. On September 21, 2006, the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. A copy of the September 21, 2006, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as a part of this Order.
6. On or about March 11, 2009, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
7. Petitioner presented the following in support of her petition:
 - 7.1. Motion for Final Order issued on January 20, 2009, by the State of Florida, Department of Health, in which Petitioner's license to practice in the State of Florida was suspended based on Petitioner's conviction on March 3, 2004, and her voluntary surrender in the State of California.
 - 7.2. Order of the Board issued on September 25, 2007, by the Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, accepting Petitioner's voluntary surrender of her license to practice in the State of California, based on Petitioner's conviction on March 3, 2004.
 - 7.3. Order of the Board issued on August 16, 2006, by the Department of Health, State of Washington in which Petitioner's license to practice in the State of Washington was suspended.
 - 7.4. Letter, dated January 8, 2009, from David C. Larson, LCDC, Addiction Therapist, Department of Veterans Affairs, San Antonio, Texas, states Petitioner recently received care through the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. As her

Substance Abuse Treatment Aftercare Case Manager, Petitioner asked that Mr. Larson prepare a letter to verify her participation in the Substance Abuse Treatment Program (SATP), for outpatient, aftercare education and treatment relative to her Alcohol and Drug Dependence, in full sustained remission. Her treatment involvement with SATP actually began on March 21, 2008, in the Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP). It is a 28-day, intensive primary treatment program for drug and alcohol dependency. The program was adapted from the inpatient program for the purpose of cost reduction. Petitioner successfully completed the SARRTP on April 15, 2008. On April 22, 2008, she completed her aftercare plan and began attending SATP's Outpatient Treatment Program, for aftercare support. She attended this outpatient substance abuse group therapy program on a weekly basis. During that time, Petitioner sustained her abstinence and, was active in 12 Step Programs as well. She completed her aftercare program on August 8, 2008. Petitioner as acquired as much improved awareness of alternative coping strategies and, she is aware of where to find support for continued abstinence and resisting self-defeating behavior. Petitioner was actively involved in the Alcoholics Anonymous program and, the quality of her interaction in her group therapy clearly reflected her sobriety, and her growth in Twelve Step recovery.

- 7.5. Letter of support, dated May 22, 2009, from Susie G., Euless, Texas, states she has been sponsoring Petitioner since August 2008, when she moved from San Antonio, Texas. She has shown great enthusiasm in working the 12 steps of Alcoholic's Anonymous. She is now on her 12th step and brings her AA meetings to rehabilitation facilities in the area. It has been a joy for Ms. G. to help Petitioner on her journey to maintain sobriety and has nothing but good things to say about her.
 - 7.6. Letter of support from Valerie M. Turner, RN, Fort Worth, Texas, states, she has known Petitioner on a personal level for approximately six (6) months. During this time, Ms. Turner has learned that Petitioner is a very caring and kind individual. She has always shown a compassion and caring with those she surrounds herself with. In these past months, Ms. Turner has seen a tremendous personal growth. Petitioner is on a journey to not only better herself, but feels the desire to give back and help others with their struggles and healing as well.
 - 7.7. Documentation of support group meetings dating from February 2008, through June 2009.
 - 7.8. Verification of successful completion of twenty (20) Type I Continuing Education Contact Hours.
8. Petitioner gives February 11, 2008, as her date of sobriety.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. 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.
3. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of CRISS HELMS, Registered Nurse License Number 643639, to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas, be and the same is hereby GRANTED, AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS SO LONG AS THE PETITIONER complies 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 the stipulations contained in this Order:

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

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

(1) PETITIONER SHALL NOT seek employment or practice nursing for compensation until she has paid all re-registration fees and is issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, which shall bear the appropriate notation. Said license issued to CRISS HELMS, shall be subject to the following agreed post-licensure stipulations:

(2) PETITIONER SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. PETITIONER SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of relicensure. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

(3) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of relicensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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 PETITIONER CHOOSE TO WORK AS A NURSE IN TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS PROBATION PERIOD:

(4) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER 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.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(6) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional nurse to be working on the same unit as PETITIONER and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. PETITIONER SHALL work only on regularly assigned,

identified and predetermined unit(s). The PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(7) For the remainder of the stipulation period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, 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 PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(8) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which PETITIONER is regularly assigned for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

(9) PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area for one (1) year of employment as a nurse. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.

(10) PETITIONER SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

(11) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER's capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. 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 two (2) years of employment as a nurse.

(12) PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. **In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and PETITIONER SHALL submit to an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.**

(13) PETITIONER SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the stipulation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months. All random screens

SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis is the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the PETITIONER's place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require PETITIONER to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. PETITIONER SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board. Failure to report for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result and may result in further disciplinary action by this Board.

(14) PETITIONER SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by PETITIONER.

PETITIONER SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) months. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONERS's license and PETITIONER shall be eligible for multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

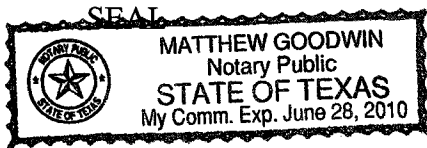
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. 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 convictions, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order. 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 agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license to practice professional nursing in the state of Texas. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, my license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas will be revoked, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 20th day of July, 2009.

Criss Helms
CRISS HELMS, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of July, 2009.

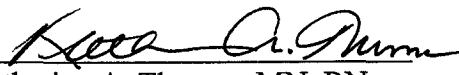


Matthew Goodwin
Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 20th day of July, 2009, by CRISS HELMS, Registered Nurse License Number 643639, and said Order is final.



Effective this 18th day of August, 2009.


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

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 643639
issued to CRISS HELMS

§ AGREED
§ ORDER

On this day, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 643639, issued to CRISS HELMS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c) of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to 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, 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 San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 22, 1997.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history is unknown.
6. Charges were filed on June 30, 2006. A copy of the formal charges is attached and incorporated by reference, as part of this Order.
7. Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 3, 2006.

8. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
9. 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.
10. 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.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Section 301.452(b)(8), (10) & (13), Texas Occupations Code, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(C), and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I) & (13).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered License Number 643639, heretofore issued to CRISS HELMS, including revocation of Respondent's professional license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 643639, heretofore issued to CRISS HELMS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Board of Nurse Examiners. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL immediately deliver the wallet-sized license, heretofore issued to CRISS HELMS, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "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.
3. 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.
4. 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 multistate privilege, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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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 becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 15 day of Sept, 2006

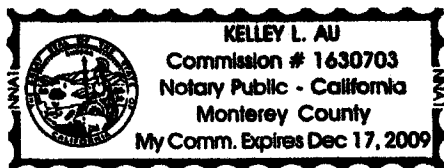
Criss Helms
CRISS HELMS, Respondent

State of California
County of Santa Cruz

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of September, 2006.

SEAL

Kelley L. Au
Notary Public in and for the State of California



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 643639, previously issued to CRISS HELMS.

Effective this 21st day of September, 2006.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas", is written over a horizontal line.

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

**In the Matter of Registered Nurse License
Number 643639, Issued to
CRISS HELMS, Respondent**

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**BEFORE THE BOARD
OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS**

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, CRISS HELMS, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 643639, which is in Current status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about December 12, 2004, while working on a multi-state privilege through her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, and on assignment at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona, Respondent administered 1 mg. Ativan intravenously to Patient Medical Record Number instead of by mouth as ordered by the physician. The oncoming nurse found the patient to be experiencing respiratory distress, including oxygen saturation which was measured at 85%. Respondent's conduct may have resulted in the patient experiencing respiratory distress.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(C).

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CHARGE II.

On or about June 7, 2005, Respondent provided false and deceptive information on the Board of Nurse Examiners Texas Online Renewal Document in that she answered "no" to the following question:

"Have you ever been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrest (excluding minor traffic violations) since the last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUI's, DWI's, PI's must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. (One time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] do not need to be disclosed, therefore, you may answer "No." If you have two or more MIP's or MIC's, you must answer "yes.").

On or about March 3, 2004, Respondent plead guilty and was convicted of DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE in the San Diego Superior Court, Case No. M906268. As a result of the guilty plea, Respondent was placed on summary probation for five (5) years and ordered to pay a fine in the amount of one thousand six hundred and fifty dollars (\$1,650.00).

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I) & (13).

CHARGE III.

On or about May 18, 2006, Respondent voluntarily surrendered her multi state licensure privilege to practice nursing in the State of Arizona to the Arizona State Board of Nursing. A copy of the May 18, 2006, Consent to Voluntary Surrender Multistate Licensure Privilege in Arizona and Cease and Desist Order No. 0412121, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(8).

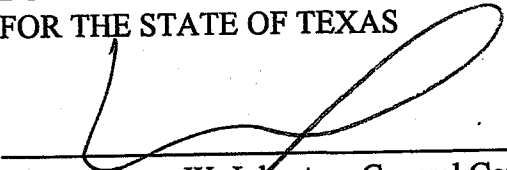
NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Board's rules, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to § 301.461, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Chemical Dependency which can be found at the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us.

Filed this 30 day of June, 2006.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS



James W. Johnston, General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300
Victoria Cox, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 0079585
E. Joy Sparks, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 18874600
BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS
333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460
Austin, Texas 78701
P: (512) 305-6824
F: (512) 305.8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Arizona Board of Nursing Order issued May 18, 2006.

0999/D

ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
4747 North 7th Street, Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85014
602-889-5150

IN THE MATTER OF THE PRIVILEGE TO
PRACTICE NURSING UNDER THE NURSE
LICENSURE COMPACT IN THE STATE OF
ARIZONA ISSUED TO:

CRISS JESSICA HELMS,
RESPONDENT
NURSE LICENSE NO.: RN 643639
STATE OF: TEXAS

CONSENT TO VOLUNTARY
SURRENDER MULTISTATE
LICENSURE PRIVILEGE
IN ARIZONA AND
CEASE AND DESIST
ORDER NO. 0412121

A complaint charging Criss Jessica Helms ("Respondent") with violation of the Nurse Practice Act has been received by the Arizona State Board of Nursing ("Board"). In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of the above-captioned matter, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1668 (D)(5), Respondent voluntarily surrenders her license privilege to practice under any multistate licensure in the state of Arizona and agrees to cease and desist the practice of nursing in Arizona.

Based on the evidence before it, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact,
Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent holds professional nurse licensure, with multistate licensure privileges ("Privilege") under the Nurse Licensure Compact ("Compact"), issued by Texas, a Compact State.
2. From on or about October 2004, until December of 2004, Respondent was assigned by Medstaff, a travel agency to work at Banner Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona.
3. On or about December 12, 2004, Respondent administered a dose of Ativan intravenously to a patient. The order was written as Ativan 1 mg. orally every 6 hours now and as

1 needed for anxiety. Respondent said the reason she gave the Ativan intravenously was because the
2 oral dose was not immediately available at the time and Respondent was worried about the patient.

3 4. On or about January 16, 2003 Respondent was convicted of a misdemeanor in
4 Travis County Court Texas for driving under the influence (DUI). Respondent was sentenced to three
5 days in jail, and required to pay all court costs.

6 5. On or about March 3, 2004 Respondent was convicted of a misdemeanor in San
7 Diego Superior Court in San Diego, California for driving under the influence (DUI). Respondent was
8 sentenced to probation for at least 365 days, complete a Public Service Work Program, participate in
9 54 hours of counseling and group sessions, pay all court fees, and attend MADD.
10

11 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

12 Pursuant to A.R.S. § § 32-1606, 32-1663, 32-1664, 32-1668 Article II, III and V, the
13 Board has subject matter and personal jurisdiction in this matter.
14

15 The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute a
16 violation of A.R.S. § 32-1601(16)(d) and (j), and A.A.C. R4-19-403(1), (5), (6), (12), and (25) (adopted
17 effective July 19, 1995).
18

19 The conduct and circumstances described in the Findings of Fact constitute sufficient
20 cause pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-1663 (D)(5) 32-1664(N) to take disciplinary action against
21 Respondent's privilege to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Arizona.
22

23 Respondent admits the Board's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law.

24 Respondent understands that she has an opportunity to request a hearing and declines to
25 do so. Respondent agrees to issuance of the attached Order and waives all rights to a hearing,
26 rehearing, appeal, or judicial review relating to this Order.
27

28 Respondent understands that all investigative materials prepared or received by the
29

1 Board concerning these violations and all notices and pleadings relating thereto may be retained in the
2 Board's file concerning this matter.

3 Respondent understands that the admissions in the Findings of Fact are conclusive
4 evidence of a violation of the Nurse Practice Act and may be used for purposes of determining
5 sanctions in any future disciplinary matter.

6 Respondent understands the right to consult legal counsel prior to entering into the
7 Consent Agreement and such consultation has either been obtained or is waived.

8 Respondent understands that this voluntary surrender is effective upon its acceptance by
9 the Executive Director or the Board and by Respondent as evidenced by the respective signatures
10 thereto. Respondent's signature obtained via facsimile shall have the same effect as an original
11 signature. Once signed by the Respondent, the agreement cannot be withdrawn without the Executive
12 Director or the Board's approval or by stipulation between the Respondent and the Executive Director
13 or the Board. The effective date of this Order is the date the Voluntary Surrender is signed by the
14 Executive Director or the Board and by Respondent. If the Voluntary Surrender is signed on a
15 different date, the later date is the effective date.

16 Respondent understands that Voluntary Surrender constitutes disciplinary action.
17 Respondent also understands that she may not reapply for reinstatement during the period of
18 Voluntary Surrender.

19 Respondent agrees that she may apply for reinstatement after the period of voluntary
20 surrender under the following conditions, and must comply with current law at the time of their
21 application for reinstatement:

22 The application for reinstatement must be in writing and shall contain therein or have
23 attached thereto substantial evidence that the basis for the voluntary surrender has been removed and
24

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1 that the reinstatement of the license does not constitute a threat to the public's health, safety and
2 welfare. The Board may require physical, psychological, or psychiatric evaluations, reports and
3 affidavits regarding the Respondent as it deems necessary. These conditions shall be met before the
4 application for reinstatement is considered.
5

6
7 Chris Wilson
8 Respondent

9 Date: 5/17/06

10 ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

11 SEAL

12
13 Jody Ridgway R.N., M.N.
14 Jody Ridgway, R.N., M.N.
15 Executive Director

16 Dated: May 18, 2006

17 TORRENO COUNTY STATE LICENSE RELAS

18 **ORDER**

19 Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1643 (D)(5) the Board hereby accepts the Voluntary Surrender
20 the privilege to practice nursing in Arizona under the multistate license number RN 643639 issued by
21 Texas. This Order of Voluntary Surrender hereby entered shall be filed with the Board and shall be
22 made public upon the effective date of this Consent Agreement. Respondent shall not practice in
23 Arizona under the privilege of a multistate license issued by any other state.
24
25

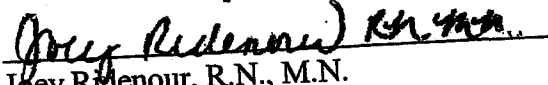
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1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent may apply for reinstatement of said
2 privilege after a period of 5 years.

3
4 SEAL

ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

5 
6 Joey Ridenour, R.N., M.N.
7 Executive Director

8
9 Dated: May 18, 2006

10
11 JR/SRT:dh

12
13 Copies Mailed this 22nd day of May 2006 to:

14
15 James A. Frisbie Esq.
16 CAMPBELL, YOST, CLARE & NORRELL, P.C.
17 101 North First Ave., Suite 2500
18 Phoenix, AZ 85002
19 Attorney for Respondent Criss Jessica Helms

20 And

21 Criss Helms
22 2025 E Campbell Ave
23 Phoenix AZ 85002

24
25 By: D. Lindsey
26 Legal Secretary