BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Registered Nurse

§ §

License Number 640977

§ AGREED

issued to LAUREE SNIDER

§ ORDER

s on file or is of record in the offices of the leax Board of Nursing.

Atthum. Attendant

Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boa considered the matter of LAUREE SNIDER, Registered Nurse License Number 640977, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered 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 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 Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 17, 1997.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history is unknown.

- 6. On July 24, 2004, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing requiring her to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). A copy of the July 24, 2004, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Finding of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 8. Formal Charges were filed on November 8, 2005. A copy of the Formal Charges is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 9. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on November 10, 2005.
- 10. On March 24, 2006, Elizabeth A. Hedden, MD, PA, indicated that Respondent had been under her medical care for three (3) years. She had originally come to the Board's attention after an overdose of Tylenol PM and alcohol. This was a very serious suicide attempt in the context of grief over a broken marriage. To. Dr. Hedden's knowledge, there had been no past or current concerns about Respondent abusing prescription medications, alcohol or street drugs. In Dr. Hedden's professional opinion, she saw no need for drug testing or restrictions of Respondent's professional license.
- 11. Respondent states that she was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident on March 19, 2008. Respondent denies that she has violated any law arising from that auto accident.
- 12. Respondent states that she has been sober and attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings regularly for over six (6) months as of the date of this Order.
- 13. The Board fins 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.
- 14. 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)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).
- 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 640977, heretofore issued to LAUREE SNIDER.
- 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.

<u>ORDER</u>

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 TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) payable to TPAPN.
- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep his/her license to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.

- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.
- (5) IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that this Order shall not dispose of any violation that may arise or may have occurred in relation to the motor vehicle accident that occurred on March 19, 2008. In the event RESPONDENT is convicted of an offense or receives any deferred adjudication, said judicial action may result in further disciplinary action by the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (6) IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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.
- (7) IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- (8) 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 Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.
- (9) 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 that may include revocation of Respondent's license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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RESPONDENTS CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit you deny the violations alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that docum me oligible to punicipate in the Texas Petr Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Five (5) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this cratter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on brhalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, and a copy will be mailed to see. I understand that if I fail to comply wife all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary ranction, including revocation of my license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of. Notary Public in and for the State of _

Appropred as to form only.

R. DELOACH, Attorney for Respondent

640977:007

SBAL

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the <a href="https://linearchar.org/line



Entered and effective this 21st day of January, 2009.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf of said Board In the Matter of Permanent License

Number 640977, Issued to

LAUREE SNIDER, Respondent

\$ 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, LAUREE SNIDER, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 640977, 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 July 13, 2005, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas on July 27, 2004. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) contract during its term. Since April 2005, Respondent failed to call in and submit to random drug testing; failed to submit evidence of meeting attendance; and failed to submit evidence of quarterly employer meetings.

A copy of the July 27, 2004, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes a violation of Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B), as amended September 28, 2004.

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NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of revocation 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. and Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 53. 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.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order which is attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated July 27, 2004.

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 BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS 333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460 Austin, Texas 78701 P: (512) 305-6824

F: (512) 305-7401 or (512) 305-6870

Elizabeth L. Higginbotham, RN, JD

Assistant General Counsel
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FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS
333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460
Austin, Texas 78701
P: (512) 305-6824

F: (512) 305-7401 or (512) 305-6870

Attachments: Agreed Order dated July 27, 2004.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 640977 § AGREED issued to LAUREE SNIDER § ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LAUREE SNIDER, License Number 640977, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), (12) Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on May 21, 2004, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 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 Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 17, 1997.
- 5. Respondent's complete professional employment history is unknown.

- Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she received treatment at St. John's Hospital in Texas City, Texas, following a drug overdose, then on a separate occasion received treatment at St. John's Hospital in Clear Lake, Texas for a second overdose where she ingested forty-eight (48) Tylenol PM.
- 7. On or about August 29, 2003, Respondent plead nolo contendere to the offense "Driving While Intoxicated/Open Container," a Class B Misdemeanor, in the County Court at Law No. 3 Galveston, Texas, Cause Number 222813. Respondent was sentenced to twelve (12) months probation, a \$400 fine, was ordered to attend DWI school, submit to an alcohol & drug evaluation, and to abstain from consumption of alcoholic beverages during the probationary period.
- 8. On or about September 5, 2001, Respondent plead nolo contendere to the offense "Obstruction of a Highway Passage," a Class B Misdemeanor, in the County Court at Law No. 2 Galveston, Texas, Cause Number 202012. Respondent was sentenced to nine (9) months probation, a \$400 fine, and was ordered to participate in drug screening to detect controlled substances.
- 9. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 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, chemical dependency, or mental illness.
- 11. Respondent's conduct described in Finding of Fact Numbers six (6), seven (7) & eight (8) resulted from Respondent's impairment due to chemical dependency or mental illness.
- 12. 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)(10) &(12), 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 640977, heretofore issued to LAUREE SNIDER, 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.

<u>ORDER</u>

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, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) payable to 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.

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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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. 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 12 day of July, 20 04

LAUREE SNIDER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this $\frac{1}{2}$ day of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2004}$.

DAWN A. JERRY
Notery Public, Stelle of Texas
My Commission Expires
SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXCLE

Entered and effective this $\frac{27}{\text{day of }}$ day of $\frac{90\%}{\text{day of }}$.

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