

Board of Nurse Examiners For the State of Texas

Location Address: William P. Hobby Building, Ste. 3-460, 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 305-7400 Fax: (512) 305-7401 Web: www.bne.state.tx.us

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director

July 26, 2006

Certified Mail No. 7002 0860 0007 8855 6530 Return Receipt Requested

Johnny Wayne Ames 217 W. Barbara Avenue Harlingen, TX 78550

Dear Mr. Ames:

Please find enclosed your Conditional Eligibility Order, ratified July 25, 2006, regarding the Petition for Declaratory Order you filed with the Board of Nurse Examiners. The disposition will be forwarded to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc., and to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB). The results of any disciplinary action are public information.

You have been granted permission to write the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination) upon completion of the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees. Your eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN® Examination may be affected by any inaccuracies in your petition, and any subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act may affect your eligibility to sit for the examination or the later revocation of a license obtained through misrepresentation.

If you have any questions, please contact the Examination Department at (512) 305-6819.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director

KAT/phr

R02/1299

Conditional Eligibility Order Enclosures:

Members of the Board

Joyce Adams, PhD, RN Houston

Deborah Bell, CLU, ChFC Abilene

Mesquite

George Buchenau, Jr., BSN, RN, MBA Amarillo

Virginia Campbell, BSN, RN, CNOR Mesquite

Blanca Rosa Garcia, PhD, RN

Executive Director of the Board

Richard Gibbs, LVN

Rachel Gomez, LVN

Brenda Jackson, PhD, RN San Antonio

Beverley Jean Nutall, LVN

Bryan

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of		§	
JOHNNY WAYNE AMES,	<i>j</i>	§	ORDER OF
PETITIONER for Eligibility for		§	CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY
Licensure		§	

On the date entered below, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by JOHNNY WAYNE AMES, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and PETITIONER's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may have violated Section 301.452 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 1, 2006, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about July 28, 2005, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
- 3. Petitioner graduated with an Associate Degree in Nursing from South Texas College, McAllen, Texas, in September 2005.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads as follows: "Have you ever been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled 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)? 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.")"

- 5. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads as follows: "Do you have any criminal charges pending, including unresolved arrests?"
- 6. Petitioner disclosed that on May 26, 2001, he was charged with four (4) counts of Possession or Promotion of Child Pornography in the Weslaco Municipal Court of Hidalgo County, Texas. On February 13, 2003, the charges were dismissed because Petitioner was "to be prosecuted federally for same charges." A records search dated March 7, 2006, from the Clerk of Court, United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, McAllen, Texas, states that "no records have been found" under Petitioner's name.
- 7. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 8. On July 29, 2005, Petitioner's Texas Educator Certificate was revoked by default at a hearing before the State Office of Administrative Hearings permanently invalidating his teaching certificate.
- 9. On April 21, 2006, Petitioner presented to Richard Connell, Ph.D., Lampasas, Texas, to undergo a forensic psychological evaluation to include a sexual predator component and a polygraph exam. The results of the evaluation indicate that Petitioner would be able to consistently behave in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Board of Nursing Rules 213.27-213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code, as well as the minimum standards set by the Board's Rules 217.11 at 22 TAC and generally accepted Nursing standards. Secondly, Petitioner would have a low probability of engaging in behaviors identified by the Board as constituting unprofessional conduct as elaborated in Rule 217.12.
- 10. Petitioner underwent a polygraph exam on April 24, 2006, administered by Donald Trease, Allied Polygraph, San Antonio, Texas. The pre-test interview disclosed that in June 2005 Petitioner went to the U.S. District Court and found out there were no charges pending against him. Petitioner presented disposition papers from the Weslaco court indicating the case was dismissed and transferred to federal court with no records found in the U.S. District Court, but he has no Order of Dismissal from federal court so it is possible charges could still be filed. The charges were filed initially in state court in May 2001. Petitioner stated that he has never been interested in child pornography, though he has accessed adult sites. The analysis of the polygraph results shows a low probably of deception, indicating Petitioner was "truthful."
- 11. The Board received letters of support/recommendation for Petitioner from the following:

- A letter dated July 11, 2005, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Esmeralda Garza, RN, MSN, Instructor, South Texas College, McAllen, Texas.
- A letter dated July 27, 2005, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Paula A. Olesen, RN, MSN, Director, Associate Degree Nursing Program, South Texas College, McAllen, Texas.
- A letter was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner by Jennifer Housos, RN, MSN, FNP-C, South Texas College, McAllen, Texas.
- 12. Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 13. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
- 14. Petitioner has sworn that his past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 15. Petitioner 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.
- 16. On or about June 1, 2006, the Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board of Nurse Examiners has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. Petitioner has submitted a petition in compliance with Section 301.257 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 3. Petitioner's criminal history reflects criminal conduct which is grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. Petitioner 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.
- 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, JOHNNY WAYNE AMES, PETITIONER, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§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 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 the 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.

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

- (1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. PETITIONER 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) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. 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 on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).
- (2) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure, successfully complete a course in nursing ethics. PETITIONER 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify

PETITIONER's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Board approved courses may be found on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).

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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner 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 Board of Nurse Examiners 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 Petition for Declaratory Order, 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 petition, 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 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-RN® Examination or accepting any permit or license from the Board of Nurse Examiners.

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.

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 Board of Nurse Examiners enter this Order.

EXPIRES 5-13-2009

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the
oard of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of
onditional Eligibility that was signed on the <u>11th</u> day of <u>July</u> , 2006,
y JOHNNY WAYNE AMES, PETITIONER, for Petition for Declaratory Order, and said Order
final.
Entered this <u>25th</u> day of <u>July</u> , 2006.
BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS
By: Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf of said Board