BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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Texas Board of Nursing.

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Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse License Number 114797 issued to MONYA HOPE BERRY

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§ ORDER

AGREED

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter refer to as the Board, considered the matter of MONYA HOPE BERRY, Vocational Nurse License Number 114797, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Article 4528c, sec.10(a)(9), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on May 14, 2007, 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 representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Southwest State Technical College, Mobile, Alabama, on August 27, 1984. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, on July 25, 1986.

5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

07/1986 - 02/1995 Unknown Licensed Vocational Nurse 03/1995 - 07/1999 Bellaire, Texas Licensed Vocational Nurse 03/1998 - Present Consolidated Community Resources, Inc. Houston, Texas Licensed Vocational Nurse 03/2000 - 09/2000 Westwood Home Care Texas Licensed Vocational Nurse 04/2005 - 04/2006 Pediatric Special Care

6. On or about September 4, 2006, Respondent submitted a renewal application to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which she answered "Yes" to the following question: "Have you ever been arrested, convicted, placed on community supervision...?" Respondent disclosed the following:

On or about August 8, 1994, Respondent plead "Guilty" to Manufacturing/Delivering/Possession of a Controlled Substance <28 grams, a Second Degree Felony, in the 337th District Court, Houston, Texas, Cause #067969801010. Respondent was sentenced to three (3) years Deferred Adjudication Community Supervision, and assessed a fine in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300.00). On or about February 21, 1996, Respondent's Community Supervision Expired.

Houston, Texas

Respondent failed to disclose the following offenses:

- A. On or about December 2, 1991, Respondent was arrested for Prostitution by the Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.
- B. On or about January 14, 1992, Respondent was arrested for Possession of Marijuana, by the Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.
- C. On or about February 28, 1992, Respondent was arrested for Prostitution by the Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.

- D. On or about May 13, 1992, Respondent was arrested for Prostitution and Possession of Marijuana by the Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.
- E. On or about September 18, 1992, Respondent was arrested for Prostitution by the Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.
- F. On or about January 20, 1993, Respondent was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substance <28G, a Second Degree Felony, by the Harris County Sheriffs Office, Houston, Texas.
- On or about March 15, 2007, Respondent submitted a written statement related to Finding 7. of Fact Number Six (6), which states that the above allegations listed above are a result of her inabilities, in that time period and lack of coping skills with day to day problems and tragedies such as divorce, death of family members and dysfunctional family unit led up to her disease of addiction. After each arrest, she would get clean and sober for a period of time. She would then go back to work and would try to stay clean and sober on her own in which after several attempts she was unsuccessful until her arrest on January 20, 1993. At that time, she was introduced to a 12 step recovery program in which she remained clean and sober for nine (9) months. Due to her relapse, she acquired the charge on January 25, 1994 and chose to go to treatment for approximately 30 days to get help for which she had remained clean and sober since that date. Her current clean and sober date is January 26, 1994. During her active addition, she was unable to function as a nurse. She worked as an agency nurse which allowed her to not take assignments while in her active addiction which led up to the Prostitution arrests for which she is deeply ashamed of but have learned over the years in recovery to deal with her past which is another reason it was time to get honest. She could no longer live with the dishonesty to a profession that she highly respected. In response to why she never notified the Board of Nursing of her arrests and charges was due to fear of losing her nursing license and being unable to support herself as well as her child. Through the process of working a 12 step program of recovery, she has been given the skills to deal with my past. She has been active in a 12 step program of recovery and at not time or has she ever placed a patient or her job in jeopardy due to her addition. Due to her anonymity, she has not disclosed her past to her employer. She had several surgeries in recovery including back surgery in 1997 for which she did not relapse. She believes that she has had a very strong recovery program and her coping skills through the grace of God are very strong. She takes full responsibility for her actions, her behavior and dishonesty and is in no way placing blame on anything or anyone for her dishonesty. She has enclosed letters of recommendations from Jenny Fromholz, LCDC and sponsor and James Nwanna, Assistant Administrator, Consolidated Community Resources, Inc. Home Health."

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 violation of Article 4528c, sec.10(a)(9), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §239.11(29).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 114797, heretofore issued to MONYA HOPE BERRY, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH A FINE, and RESPONDENT 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 Vocational 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 privilege, if any, to practice vocational 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 that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to MONYA HOPE BERRY to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of

ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT 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. RESPONDENT 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 RESPONDENT'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).
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 5th day of October,	20 <u>0'/</u> .
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MONYA HOPE BERRY, Respondent	

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of October

lotary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires August 09, 2009

Notary Public in and for the State of exas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of
the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order
that was signed on the <u>15th</u> day of <u>October</u> , <u>2007</u> , by MONYA HOPE BERRY
Vocational Nurse License Number 114797, and said Order is final.
Effective this 23rd day of October , 2007
Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf of said Board