



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.  
*Patricia R. Plummer*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of §  
Vocational Nurse License Number 306270 §  
issued to JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 306270, issued to JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent's is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.
3. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Vermont Technical College, Bennington, Vermont, on June 24, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas in March 8, 2012.
4. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown.
5. On or about June 3, 2011, Respondent was issued an Agreed Eligibility Order by the Board which required her to participate in and successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). A copy of the Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Agreed Eligibility Order dated June 3, 2011, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

6. In a letter dated October 22, 2012, Respondent was notified by the Board of the following alleged violation of the Nursing Practice Act of the State of Texas:

- On or about September 28, 2012, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Eligibility Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on June 3, 2011. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) contract in that she left the program and moved to Vermont. Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Eligibility Order dated June 3, 2011, states:

"(3) PETITIONER SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term."

On or about September 28, 2012, Respondent was dismissed from TPAPN and referred to the Texas Board of Nursing.

7. On November 26, 2012, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's notarized statement, dated November 19, 2012, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

#### 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(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(9) & (11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 306270, heretofore issued to JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) 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, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.452 (b), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TAC §§213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

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ORDER

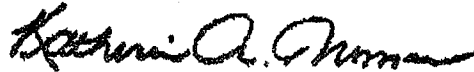
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 306270, heretofore issued to JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice vocational nursing, use the title of "vocational nurse" or the abbreviation "LVN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a vocational nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a vocational nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
3. 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 nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Effective this 26th day of November, 2012.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



By:

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



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.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of  
JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS,  
PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure

§                    AGREED  
§  
§                    ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the B considered the Endorsement Application, which has been processed as a Petition for Declaratory Order pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30, and supporting documents filed by JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(10)&(12) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 28, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about May 14, 2010, PETITIONER submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.

3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Vermont Technical College, Bennington, Vermont, on June 1, 2006.
4. Petitioner completed the Endorsement Application and answered "Yes" to the question which reads 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 have 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?*
- (You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)"*

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

On or about July 17, 2000, Petitioner was arrested in Albany County, State of New York, for DISORDERLY CONDUCT, a misdemeanor offense.

On or about August 24, 2000, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DISORDERLY CONDUCT (a misdemeanor offense committed on July 17, 2000), in the Guilderland Town Court, State of New York, under Cause No. 00070343. As a result of the conviction, Petitioner was ordered to pay a fine.

6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
7. Petitioner completed the Endorsement Application and answered "Yes" to the question which reads: *"Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?"*
8. A letter was submitted to the Board, by Oscar E. Perez, MD, El Paso, Texas, stating that Petitioner has been his patient since April 29, 2010. She has been diagnosed with Major Bipolar Disorder, Depressed. She continues to report with symptoms of depression. Dr. Perez states it is vital that Petitioner continue with therapy and medication management.
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. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Endorsement Application, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
11. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
12. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
13. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
14. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's mental illness and subsequent treatment as provided in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 and in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33.
15. Petitioner's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.
16. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
17. Petitioner has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.
18. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
2. On or about May 14, 2010, PETITIONER submitted an Endorsement Application requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.257, and 301.260, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.5(e) and §213.30.

3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code.
4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, 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 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
6. The Board may license an individual who has a history of mental illness after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 if the Board determines the individual does not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
7. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
8. 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.
9. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that the application of PETITIONER is hereby GRANTED, and upon payment of any required fees, PETITIONER SHALL be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, which shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.



PETITIONER 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 AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER'S license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where PETITIONER wishes to work.

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

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within forty-five (45) days of 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, PETITIONER SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN contract to the Texas Board of Nursing.

(3) PETITIONER SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term.

(4) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN contract.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or revocation of PETITIONER'S license(s) and nurse compact licensure privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing 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 application, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct 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 Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. 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 Temporary Permit to practice nursing. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to accepting any license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 my potential ineligibility for licensure through peer assistance.

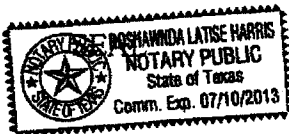
I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of my license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice 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 Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

Signed this 19 day of May, 2011.

Jennifer Harris  
JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19 day of May, 2011.



Rosshanda Latise Harris  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011, by JENNIFER ABIGAIL HARRIS, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2011.



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

Jennifer Harris

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
247 Union Street

Bennington, VT, 05201

License # 306270

Monday, November 19, 2012

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to state my intent to voluntarily surrender my Texas state nursing license as I have moved back home to Bennington, VT permanently and will no longer require use of it. My new cell number, new address and license number are listed above. Please contact me if anything further is needed to facilitate this process. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Harris

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND IN MY  
PRESENCE THIS 19 DAY OF November 2012

Zoe Every-Bahn

Notary Public

My Comm. Expires Feb. 10, 2015