BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 198867

AGREED

Executive Director of the Board

issued to SHARLA MAE RAMIREZ

§ ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referr to as the Board, considered the matter of SHARLA MAE RAMIREZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 198867, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(2) & (10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 27, 2006, 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 Texas Junior College, Del Rio, Texas, on May 14, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 16, 2005.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On February 14, 2005, Respondent completed an application for initial licensure by examination and answered "No" to the question which reads: "Have you 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)?..." Respondent failed to disclose the criminal offense outlined in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7).

Sharla Ramirez:220 December 27, 2006

- 7. On or about August 15, 2006, Respondent was requested to comply with a random criminal background audit check. The results revealed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - On November 2, 1999, Respondent was charged with the felony offense of Forgery. Respondent was convicted and sentenced to six (6) months in the Ward County Jail, suspended for a period of two (2) years. Respondent was also sentenced to eighty (80) hours of community service and assessed a fine in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
- 8. In a written statement to the Board, Respondent states that her reason for non disclosure was because when she got into her nursing program she was told that as long as it had been over five years, it was "ok."

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 Section 301.452(b)(2) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §217.12(6)(I).
- 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 198867, heretofore issued to SHARLA MAE RAMIREZ, 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 a Fine with Remedial Education, 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, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT 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) 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).
- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing 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. 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. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT'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).

(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 violation 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 7 day of May, 2007.

Sharla MAE RAMIREZ, Respondent

d before me this _

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Notary Public in and for the State of accordance with Title 1000 1049

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Signed this _______, day of _________, 2



Paralegal

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 7th day of May, 2007, by SHARLA MAE RAMIREZ, Vocational Nurse License Number 198867, and said Order is final.

Effective this 20^{th} day of May, 2008.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

