



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 Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of License Number 608565  
issued to LINNETTE KIM WELCHON

§ AGREED  
§ ORDER

An investigation by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that LINNETTE KIM WELCHON hereinafter referred to as Respondent, License Number 608565, may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on January 27, 2004, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was notified of her right to be represented by legal counsel and elected to waive representation by counsel. In attendance were Carol Marshall, Executive Director's Designee; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Earl Sterns, Investigator; Carolyn Hudson, Monitoring; and Candace V. Heisserman, Investigator.

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, notice and hearing, and consented 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 Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, on May 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas in July 1994.

5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

7/94-10/99	Not employed in Nursing
10/99-1/00	Staff Nurse Crescent Nursing Home San Angelo, Texas
1/00-1/02	Staff Nurse Regency House San Angelo, Texas
1/02-11/03	Not employed in Nursing
11/03-Present	Staff Nurse Riverside Nursing Home San Angelo, Texas

6. On or about February 15, 1999, Respondent was arrested by the San Angelo, Texas, Police Department for Driving While Intoxicated, a Class B Misdemeanor. On or about November 30, 2000, Respondent was convicted of Driving While Intoxicated in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law No. 2, Cause No. 9901808L2. Respondent was sentenced to forty-five (45) days confinement in jail, court costs in the amount of two hundred fourteen dollars (\$214.00), and a fine in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Respondent's confinement sentence was suspended and she was placed on probation for a period of six (6) months.

7. On or about August 1, 2003, Respondent submitted a RN Delinquent Renewal Application to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas on which Respondent answered "no" to question number nine (9), which reads as follows:

"Have you ever been convicted of/or received a deferred order for a crime other than a minor traffic violation?"

On or about November 30, 2000, Respondent was convicted of Driving While Intoxicated in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law No. 2, Cause No. 9901808L2.

### 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 a violation of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(22).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 608565, heretofore issued to LINNETTE KIM WELCHON, including revocation of Respondent's professional license to practice 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 WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, 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 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 privilege, 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 that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to LINNETTE

KIM WELCHON, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date 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. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered 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](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

(3) 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. 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 Registered 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](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). 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, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD.**

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in professional nursing of this Order of

the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising RN shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(8) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT's capability to practice professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising Registered Nurse to the office

of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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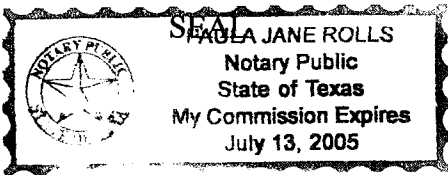
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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. 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 this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.

Linnette Kim Welchon  
LINNETTE KIM WELCHON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of March, 2004.




Paula Jane Rolls

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 18th day of March, 2004, by LINNETTE KIM WELCHON, License Number 608565, and said Order is final.

Effective this 22nd day of April, 2004.

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