BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of

AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 824023

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issued to HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, Registered Nurse License Number 824023, 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, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 7, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 26, 2012.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

12/2005 - 8/2007

Clinical Staff Nurse

United States Army Madigan AMC Fort Lewis, WA 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

Executive Director of the Board

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

9/2007 - 12/2007	Unknown	
1/2008 - 12/2010	Clinical Staff Nurse	United States Army Bassett ACH Fort Wainwright, AK
1/2011 - 5/2011	Clinical Staff Nurse	United States Army Carl R. Darnall AMC Fort Hood, TX
6/2011 - 10/2011	Clinical Nurse Specialist	United States Army Carl R. Darnall AMC Fort Hood, TX
10/2011 - 5/2012	Unknown	
5/2012 - 11/22/2012	Labor & Delivery Nurse	Metroplex Hospital Killeen, TX
11/2012 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. On or about July 20, 2012, Respondent was issued an Agreed Eligibility Order by the Texas Board of Nursing which required her to participate in and successfully complete The Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Eligibility Order dated July 20, 2012, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about November 20, 2012, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Eligibility Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on July 20, 2012. 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 withdrew from the program. Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Eligibility Order dated July 20, 2012, states:
 - "(3) PETITIONER SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term."

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

8. Respondent admits to the conduct outlined in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7). Respondent states that she has moved from Texas and has no intention of ever returning.

She states that the fact her license was restricted and made public threatened her career and her job. Respondent states that she has never done anything to jeopardize her license nor place any client in potential harm.

- 9. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 10. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.

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) 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 Registered Nurse License Number 824023, heretofore issued to HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, 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, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
- 7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 824023, heretofore issued to HEATHER

NICHOLE EVERSOLE, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered 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.

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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(s) 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 becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

copy will be mailed to me.		
	Signed this 4 day of MWM, 2013 HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, Respondent	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of, 20		
SEAL		
	Notary Public in and for the State of	

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 824023, previously issued to HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE.

Effective this 7th day of March, 20 13.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board





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In the Matter of
HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE,
PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure

AGREED

ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board 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 HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, 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)(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 April 30, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about July 23, 2011, 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 Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona, on May 1, 2005.

Heather Eversole:063

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accurate, and true copy of the document is on file or is of record in the offices of Texas Board of Nursing.

Texas Board of Mersing.

Executive Director of the Board

- 4. 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?"
- 5. A letter dated September 15, 2011, was submitted to the Board by Azra A. Farooqui, MD, Staff Psychiatrist, Tele-Behavioral Health Clinic SVC, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, stating that Petitioner has been under his care since April 8, 2011, for the diagnosis of Bipolar II Disorder and is being treated with psychiatric medications. Petitioner has been motivated and actively involved in her treatment. Petitioner is currently psychiatrically stable.
- 6. 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Petitioner's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.
- 12. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 13. 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.
- 14. 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 July 23, 2011, 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)(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 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.
- 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 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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, and while under the terms of this Order all licenses issued to PETITIONER shall be subject to the following stipulations:

Heather Eversole:063

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 five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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 29 day of JUNE 2012

HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

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 29th day of June, 2012, by HEATHER NICHOLE EVERSOLE, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 20th day of July, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board