#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 667630

issued to ERIK ARMENDARIZ

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ERIK ARMENDARIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 667630, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on November 14, 2013.

### 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(s).
- 2. Respondent waived 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 an Associate Degree in Nursing from El Paso Community College, El Paso, Texas, on December 1, 1999. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 14, 2000.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about September 7, 2004, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document to the Board of Nurse Examiners in which he provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that he answered "No" to the question: "Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state,

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

Executive Director of the Board

territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrest (excluding minor traffic violations) since the last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUI's, DWI's, PI's must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. (One time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] do not need to be disclosed, therefore, you may answer "No". If you have two or more MIP's or MIC's, you must answer "Yes".)"

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about July 18, 2004, Respondent was arrested by the El Paso Police Department, El Paso, Texas, for DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense. Respondent was subsequently charged under Cause No. 20040C10394 for DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED. On or about July 18, 2005, Cause No. 20040C10394 was dismissed in County Court at Law Number Four, El Paso County. The charge was pending a the time of renewal.

Respondent also failed to disclose that, on or about July 18, 2004, Respondent was arrested by the El Paso Police Department, El Paso, Texas, for EVADING ARREST/DETENTION W/VEH, a State Jail Felony offense. Respondent was subsequently charged under Cause No. 20040D03588 for EVADING ARREST DETENTION TPC 38.04; A LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE. The charge was pending at the time of renewal.

- 7. On or about October 20, 2004, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of EVADING ARREST DETENTION TPC 38.04; A LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on July 18, 2004, in the 120th District Court, El Paso County, Texas, under Cause No. 20040D03588. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the El Paso County Detention Facility for a period of one (1) day, with three (3) days time credit.
- 8. On or about September 21, 2006, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document to the Board of Nurse Examiners in which he provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that he answered "No" to the question: "Have you ever been arrested, convicted, placed on community supervision whether or not adjudicated guilty, sentenced to serve jail or prison time or granted pre-trial diversion, or plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, or received a court order whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests whether or not on appeal (excluding minor Class C traffic violations)? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without a finding of guilty. Please note that DUIs, DWIs, and PIs must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. One time in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] does not need to be disclosed; therefore, you may answer "No." If you have two or more MIPs or MICs, you must answer "Yes." You may answer "No" if you have previously disclosed a criminal matter otherwise responsive to this question in a renewal and/or licensure form."

Respondent failed to disclose that, on or about November 23, 2004, Respondent entered into an agreement in the County Court, El Paso County, Texas, under Cause No. 20040C10394 to participate in the El Palso Pre-Trial Intervention Program, beginning November 23, 2004.

Respondent also failed to disclose that, on or about October 20, 2004, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of EVADING ARREST DETENTION TPC 38.04; A LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on July 18, 2004, in the 120th District Court, El Paso County, Texas, under Cause No. 20040D03588. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the El Paso County Detention Facility for a period of one (1) day, with three (3) days time credit.

- 9. Formal Charges were filed on November 1, 2013
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on November 1, 2013.

## 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(22)(eff. 2/1/2004-9/27/2004), and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 667630, heretofore issued to ERIK ARMENDARIZ, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REMEDIAL EDUCATION AND A FINE, and RESPONDENT 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, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact 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 and ethics. 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) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. 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 at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension. In order to receive credit for completion of this program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. 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 at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.
- (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 Texas Board of Nursing 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, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

# RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. 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 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed	this 22	day of Dece	mber,	20 <u>13</u> .
A	Il me	m/		,
ERILA	RMENI	ARIZ, Respon	ident	
hin 17		Open was	12	

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17

day of WILM

\_\_\_, 20<u>/7</u>

SEAL

SALVADOR DE LA CRUZ
Notory Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
August 09, 2016

Notary Public in and for the State of MYA)

Approved as to form and substance.

Elizabeth Higginbotham, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 27 day of December 20 13

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of <u>December</u>, 2013, by ERIK ARMENDARIZ, Registered Nurse License Number 667630, and said Order is final.

Effective this 30th day of December, 2013.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board