



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 A. Plummer
Executive Director of the Board

DOCKET NUMBER 507-13-3291

IN THE MATTER OF § BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE §
NUMBER 572026 §
ISSUED TO §
GRETA B. GRIFFIN § OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: GRETA B. GRIFFIN
3700 MANCHACA # 115
AUSTIN, TX 78704

SUZANNE FORMBY MARSHALL
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
300 WEST 15TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

At the regularly scheduled public meeting on January 23-24, 2014, the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) considered the following items: (1) Order Number 2, *Dismissing Case*, issued by the ALJ in the above cited matter; (2) Staff's recommendation that the Board revoke the Respondent's registered nursing license by default; and (3) Respondent's recommendation to the Board regarding the above cited matter, if any.

On May 21, 2013, the ALJ convened a hearing on the merits in this matter. Staff of the Board was present for the hearing. However, the Respondent was not present at the hearing, and no one appeared on her behalf. During the hearing on May 21, 2013, Staff introduced evidence into the record demonstrating that Respondent had been sent a Notice of Final Hearing by first class certified mail return receipt requested to her last known address of record maintained by the Board in accordance with 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.10(a). The ALJ found that Staff's notice was adequate and issued Order No. 2, granting Staff's Motion for Default and dismissing the case from the docket of SOAH and remanding it to the Board for informal disposition on a default basis in accordance with the Government Code §2001.056.

The Board, after review and due consideration of Order Number 2, *Dismissing Case*, issued by the ALJ in the above cited matter, finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with the Government Code §2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Occupations Code Chapter 301 (Nursing Practice Act) for retention of Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. The Board further finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with the Occupations Code §301.458. The Board further finds that proper and timely notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in accordance with the requirements of the Government Code §2001.051 and §2001.052 and 1 Tex. Admin. Code §155.501. The Board further finds that the Respondent failed to appear in accordance with 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 213 and 1 Tex. Admin. Code §155.501. As a result of the Respondent's failure to appear, the Board

has determined that the factual allegations listed in the Formal Charges are to be deemed admitted by default and the Board is authorized to enter a default order against the Respondent pursuant to the Government Code §2001.056 and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.22. Further, the Board has determined that it is entitled to revoke the Respondent's registered nursing license pursuant to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.33(m).

Therefore, the Board hereby adopts the factual allegations, which have been deemed admitted, and the conclusions of law contained in the Formal Charges, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference for all purposes, and Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing in accordance with the Government Code Chapter 2001 and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.23(l), as applicable. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order. All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.


IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED THAT Permanent Certificate Number 572026, previously issued to GRETA B. GRIFFIN, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multi-state privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

FURTHER, pursuant to the Occupations Code §301.467, RESPONDENT is not eligible to petition for reinstatement of licensure until at least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order. Further, upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT must satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

Entered this 23rd day of January, 2014.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING


KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charges

In the Matter of § BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse §
License Number 572026 §
Issued to GRETA B. GRIFFIN, §
Respondent § BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, GRETA B. GRIFFIN, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 572026 which is in current status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about January 24, 2013, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on August 30, 2012. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to complete enrollment in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). Stipulation Number One of the Agreed Order dated August 30, 2012, states:

"(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN."

On or about January 24, 2013, Respondent was dismissed from TPAPN and referred to the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated August 30, 2012, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(9) & (11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33 and TEX. OCC. CODE Ch. 53. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses,

reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

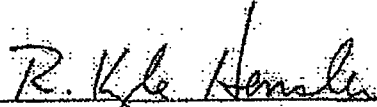
NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, which can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Order dated August 30, 2012.

Filed this 25th day of March, 2013.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



James W. Johnston, General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24036103

Lance Robert Brenton, Assistant General Counsel
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TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
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Attachments: Order of the Board dated August 30, 2012.
D/2012.06.19

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse § AGREED
License Number 572026 §
issued to GRETA B. GRIFFIN § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of GRETA B. GRIFFIN, Registered Nurse License Number 572026, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 21, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, 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(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 in Nursing from University of Texas, El Paso, Texas, on May 1, 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 26, 1991.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history is unknown.

6. On or about September 20, 2010, Respondent pled Guilty and was convicted of ATTEMPT POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE- COCAINE < 1 GRAM, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on August 26, 2010, in the 167th District County Court, Travis County, Texas, under Cause No. D1DC10205094. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Travis County Jail for a period of thirty (30) days and ordered to pay a court costs.
7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent admits she pled Guilty and got help from the Veteran Administration since this incident. She has been sober since March 11, 2012. She currently attends substance abuse treatment, treatment for military sexual trauma, post traumatic stress disorder and follow-up care for related anxiety and depression. She takes medication for both conditions.
8. On or about March 1, 2012, Respondent pled Nolo Contendere and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on November 15, 2009, in the County Court at Law of Hays County, Texas, under Cause No. 94740. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Hays County Jail for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that June 2009 was the last time she worked as a Registered Nurse, just prior to the 2009 incident. She is on probation for the DWI conviction for two (2) years. She will be tested for alcohol and drugs by her probation officer.
10. On or about March 1, 2012, Respondent pled Nolo Contendere to ASSAULT CAUSES, BODILY INJURY-FAMILY MEMBER, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on May 14, 2010, in the County Court at Law of Hays County, Texas, under Cause No. 96571. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of twenty-four (24) months and ordered to pay court costs.
11. In response to Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent received deferred adjudication for the Assault charge. She has made some mistakes in her past but is working to regain stability in her life.
12. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
13. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

14. Respondent's conduct described in Finding of Fact Numbers Six (6), Eight (8) & Ten (10), resulted from was significantly influenced by Respondent's impairment by dependency on chemicals.
15. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(13).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 572026, heretofore issued to GRETA B. GRIFFIN, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. 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.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT, in lieu of the sanction of Revocation under Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, 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, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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 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 multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

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

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

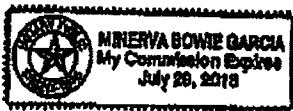
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer 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 the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 27 day of August, 2012.

Greta B. Griffin
GRETA B. GRIFFIN, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of August, 2012.

SEAL




Mirerva Bowe Garcia
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 accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of August, 2012, by GRETA B. GRIFFIN, Registered Nurse License Number 572026, and said Order is final.



Entered and effective this 30 day of August, 2012.


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