### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of

AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 213843

issued to JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA, Vocational Nurse License Number 213843, 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)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on October 17, 2013, subject to ratification by the Board.

# 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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Vista College, el Paso, Texas, on December 3, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on January 10, 2008.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

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.

\*\*Texas Board of Nursing.\*\*

\*\*Texas Board of Nursing.\*\*

\*\*Executive Director of the Board.\*\*

6. On or about August 16, 2012, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal Document Licensed Vocational Nurse to the Texas Board of Nursing in which he answered "Yes" to the question:

"Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:

- A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- B. been convicted of a felony?
- C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- D. received deferred adjudication?
- E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
- F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
- G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
- H. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
- I. been <u>cited</u> or charged with any violation of the law?
- J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?"

Respondent disclosed that on or about October 6, 2010, Respondent was arrested by the El Paso Police Department, El Paso, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 20100C10092 with DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense. On or about January 13, 2011, Respondent entered into an agreement in the County Court at Law No. 2 of El Paso County, Texas, under Cause No. 20100C10092 to participate in the Pre-trial Diversion Program of El Paso County for a period of one (1) year.

On or about March 9, 2011, Cause No. 20100C10092 was dismissed in the County Court at Law No. 2 of El Paso County, Texas, for the reason: due to Successful Completion of the pre-Trial

7. On or about January 28, 2013, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on August 20, 2011, in the County Court at Law No. 3 of El Paso County, Texas, under Cause No. 20110C08122. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the El Paso 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 twelve (12) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about January 28, 2013, Cause No. 20120C08122 for ACCIDENT INVOLVING DAMAGE TO VEHICLE>=\$200, a Class B misdemeanor offense, was dismissed in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 3 of El Paso County, Texas for the reason: the said defendant was convicted in another case Cause No. 20110C08122.

- 8. On or about May 22, 2013, Respondent defaulted on his Texas Guaranteed Student Loans as provided in Section §57.491 of the Texas Education Code. Respondent's failure to repay a Texas Guaranteed Student Loan may have deprived other students of funds for nursing school loans.
- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Six (6) through Eight (8), Respondent states as part of the agreement with the DA office and because he had no other criminal conviction or arrest he was granted pre-trial diversion in the charge of DWI that he was involved in with the City of El Paso on October 5, 2010. The August 20, 2011, DWI and Accident involving damage to vehicle, are Class B misdemeanors that he will be on probation for until January 2014 and has to pay subsequent fines.

# **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 and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(7)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 213843, heretofore issued to JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Vocational Nurse License Number 213843, previously issued to JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA, to practice nursing in Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is ENFORCED until Respondent completes the following requirements:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL initiate contact with the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation and make arrangements to repay the student loan within forty-five (45) days from the date of this Order. Upon approval of a repayment contract with the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan

Corporation, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation to submit verification of the defaulted loan's repayment status directly to the Board.

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 the Respondent 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 Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above requirements, the Suspension will be STAYED, and RESPONDENT will be placed on PROBATION for two (2) years with the following agreed terms of probation:

- (2) 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.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of the suspension being stayed, 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 <u>not</u> 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.* 

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of the suspension being stayed, 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>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (6) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on RESPONDENT'S license(s). 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 nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on RESPONDENT'S license(s). 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.
- (7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in 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 nurse.

- (8) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse 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 nurse 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.
- (9) 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 nursing. These reports shall be completed by the nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for two (2) year(s) of employment as a nurse.
- (10) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the

office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(11) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the probation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months. All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines
Barbiturates
Benzodiazepines

Methadone Methaqualone Opiates

Meperidine

Cannabinoids

Phencyclidine

Cocaine Ethanol

Propoxyphene

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each

specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the probation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject the nurse to 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. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that if during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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.

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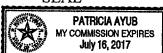
# RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of

**SEAL** 



Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <a href="text-14th">14th</a> day of <a href="text-January">January</a>, 2014, by JOSE MAURICIO GARCIA, and Vocational Nurse License Number 213843, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of February, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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