ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAMELA ALVARADO, Vocational Nurse License Number 212417, 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),(3),(4)&(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 February 26, 2014.

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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Cy-Fair College, Cypress, Texas, on August 24, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 2, 2007.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about December 16, 2010, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to THEFT \$50-\$500, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on September 28, 2010, in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 1, Harris County, Texas, under Case No. 1709870. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred, without entering an adjudication of guilt,

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and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of six (6) months, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs. On or about July 19, 2011, Respondent's propation granted under Case No. 170987001010 was revoked in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 1, Harris County, Texas. As a result, Respondent was adjudged guilty of THEFT-\$50-\$500, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on September 28, 2010, and sentenced to confinement in the Harris County Jail for a period of thirty (30) days, with forty-six (46) days credited, and Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

- 7. On or about February 28, 2011, Respondent submitted a License Renewal form to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" 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 failed to disclose that, on or about December 16, 2010, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to THEFT \$50-\$500, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on September 28, 2010, in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 1, Harris County, Texas, under Cause No. 1709870. 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 six (6) months.

- 8. On or about July 19, 2011, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of THEFT-\$50-\$500, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on May 25, 2011, in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 1, Harris County, Texas, under Case No. 175922201010. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Harris County Jail for a period of thirty (30) days, with forty-six (46) days credited, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 9. On or about July 19, 2011, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED 1ST OFFENDER BAC .08, a Class B misdemeanor offense, committed on March 27, 2011, in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 1, Harris County, Texas, under Case No. 174680801010. As a result of the conviction, Respondent

was sentenced to confinement in the Harris County Jail for a period of thirty (30) days, with forty-six (46) days credited, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

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(6)(I)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(2),(3),(4)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 212417, heretofore issued to PAMELA ALVARADO, 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.
- (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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

(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.

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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 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 5 day of Nay, 2014.	
Pamela Alvarado	
PAMELA ALVARADO, Respondent	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5 th day of Nay, 20 <u>14</u> .	
Your alluto Eliano	
JORGE ALBERTO ELIZONDO	

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

My Commission Expires

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 5th day of May.2014, by PAMELA ALVARADO, Vocational Nurse License Number 212417, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of May, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board