



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 R. Parnell*  
Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of  
Permanent Registered Nurse  
License Number 601378  
Issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP,  
Respondent

§ BEFORE THE TEXAS  
§  
§  
§ BOARD OF NURSING  
§

**ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

TO: ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP  
c/o JEFF MCDONALD, ATTORNEY  
1411 WEST AVENUE, SUITE 200  
AUSTIN, TX 78701

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing was held on July 21, 2014 at 333 Guadalupe, Room 3-460, Austin, Texas, in which the Temporary Suspension of Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 601378, issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP was considered pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE. Staff of the Texas Board of Nursing appeared and presented evidence and information concerning the conduct of ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP and whether continued practice as a nurse would constitute a continuing and imminent threat to the public welfare.

After review and due consideration of the evidence and information presented, the Board finds that the following charges are substantiated:

On or about May 30, 2014, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on February 10, 2012. Non-compliance is the result of her failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement. Stipulation number three (3) of the Agreed Order dated February 10, 2012, states:

"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."

On or about May 30, 2014, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for testing positive for temazepam/oxazepam on January 1, 2014 and EtG, metabolites of alcohol, on May 9, 2014.

The Texas Board of Nursing further finds that, given the nature of the charges concerning fitness to practice, the continued practice of nursing by ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP constitutes a continuing and imminent threat to public welfare and that the temporary suspension of Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 601378, is justified pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 601378, issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are, hereby SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY in accordance with Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a probable cause hearing be conducted in accordance with Section 301.455(c) not later than seventeen (17) days following the date of the entry of this order, and a final hearing on the matter be conducted in accordance with 301.455(d) not later than the 61<sup>st</sup> day following the date of the entry of this order.

Entered this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2014.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

  
KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the Matter of § BEFORE THE TEXAS  
Permanent Advanced Practice Registered §  
License Number 601378 §  
Issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, §  
Respondent § BOARD OF NURSING

### FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 601378 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 May 30, 2014, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on February 10, 2012. Non-compliance is the result of her failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement. Stipulation number three (3) of the Agreed Order dated February 10, 2012, states:

"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."

On or about May 30, 2014, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for testing positive for temazepam/oxazepam on January 1, 2014 and EtG/EtS, known metabolites of alcohol, on May 9, 2014.

A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated February 10, 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(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. 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](http://www.bon.texas.gov).

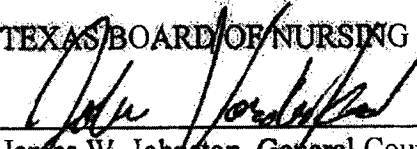
NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, which can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov).

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](http://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: Agreed Order dated January 19, 2006 and Agreed Order dated February 10, 2012.

Filed this 21 day of July, 2014.

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

John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24079751

Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 50511847

John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 00785533

John Vanderford, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 24086670

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460  
Austin, Texas 78701  
P: (512) 305-6811  
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Attachments: Agreed Order of the Board dated February 10, 2012.  
Agreed Order of the Board dated January 19, 2006



Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

9/94-2/95	Staff Nurse	Texas Oncology Arlington, Texas
2/95-6/96	Staff Nurse	Harris Methodist Hospital (HEB) Bedford, Texas
12/96-1/99	IV Nurse Specialist	Infusion Management Systems Arlington, Texas
7/97-7/99	IV Nurse Specialist	United Pharmacy Associates Arlington, Texas
5/99-7/00	Staff Nurse	Harris Methodist Hospital (HEB) Bedford, Texas
8/00-2/01	Unknown	
3/01-8/01	Staff Nurse	JPS Health Network Fort Worth, Texas
12/01-1/02	Staff Nurse	North Hills Hospital North Richland Hills, Texas
4/02-6/06	Staff Nurse	Fresenius Medical Care Dialysis Service Fort Worth, Texas
7/06	Unknown	
8/06-5/08	Charge Nurse	U.S. Renal Ft. Worth, Texas
6/08-11/09	Staff Nurse	RPNT Acute Services, Inc. Ft. Worth, Texas
12/09-Present	Unknown	

6. On January 19, 2006, Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas was issued a Reprimand with Stipulations by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. A copy of the Proposal for Decision and Order of the Board dated January 19, 2006, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.

7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately one (1) year and four (4) months.
8. On or about October 21, 2009, through November 18, 2009, while employed with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas, and on assignment at Plaza Medical Center, Ft. Worth, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone & Morphine from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients, but failed to completely and accurately document the administration, including signs, symptoms and responses to the medication in the patients' Medication Administration Records (MARs) and/or Nurses Notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patient which could result in an overdose.
9. On or about October 21, 2009, through November 18, 2009, while employed with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas, and on assignment at Plaza Medical Center, Ft. Worth, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone & Morphine from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients, but failed to follow the policy and procedure for wastage of unused portions of the medication. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
10. On or about October 21, 2009, through November 18, 2009, while employed with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas, and on assignment at Plaza Medical Center, Ft. Worth, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone & Morphine from the Pyxis Medication Dispensing System for patients, without a valid physician's order. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that the administration of narcotics without a valid physician's order could result in the patient suffering from adverse reactions.
11. On or about October 21, 2009, through November 18, 2009, while employed with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas and on assignment at Plaza Medical Center, Ft. Worth, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydromorphone & Morphine belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
12. On or about October 21, 2009, through November 18, 2009, while employed with RPNT Acute Services, Inc., Ft. Worth, Texas and on assignment at Plaza Medical Center, Ft. Worth, Texas, Respondent falsely documented in patients' Medication Administration Records (MARs) that she administered Hydromorphone & Morphine when she had not. Respondent's conduct was deceiving to subsequent caregivers who would rely on an inaccurate medical record to provide ongoing medical care.

13. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through Twelve (12), Respondent states that she "cannot deny the allegations." Respondent states she has since secured employment with a facility that has no mood altering medications who are aware of her situation and are supportive.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. Respondent's conduct described in Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through Twelve (12) resulted from Respondent's dependency on chemicals.
17. 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 violation of Section 301.452(b) (10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(B),(C)&(D), and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B), (4),(6)(A),(G)&(H),(8),(10)(C)&(11)(B).
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 601378, heretofore issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, 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.

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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 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.

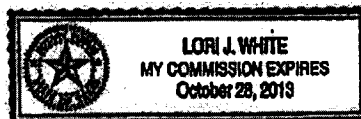
Signed this 10 day of February, 2012.

Abigail Krupp  
ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10 day of February, 2012.

SEAL

Lori J. White  
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 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012, by ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, Registered Nurse License Number 601378, and said Order is final.



Entered and effective this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

*Katherine A. Thomas*

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

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 601378           §     AGREED  
issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP                           §     ORDER

An investigation by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, Registered Nurse License Number 601378, may have violated Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on November 1, 2005, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was represented by Willie Schmerler, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director; James W. Johnston, General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Chris Schroeder, Lead Investigator; Robert Cantu, Investigator; Randi Cagan, Investigator; Jim Nunn, Legal Assistant; and Tiana Clayton, Administrative Assistant.

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.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from the University of Texas-Arlington, Arlington, Texas, in December 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 15, 1994.

5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

December 1993 - February 1995

GN/RN Float Pool  
Harris Methodist Hospital (HEB)  
Bedford, Texas

September 1994 - February 1995

Staff Nurse  
Texas Oncology  
Arlington, Texas

February 1995 - June 1996

Staff Nurse  
Harris Methodist Hospital (HEB)  
Bedford, Texas

December 1996 - January 1999

IV Nurse Specialist  
Infusion Management Systems  
Arlington, Texas

July 1997 - July 1999

IV Nurse Specialist  
United Pharmacy Associates  
Arlington, Texas

May 1999 - July 2000

Staff Nurse  
Harris Methodist Hospital (HEB)  
Bedford, Texas

August 2000 - February 2001

Employment Unknown

March 2001 - August 2001

Staff Nurse  
JPS Health Network  
Fort Worth, Texas

December 2001 - January 26, 2002

Staff Nurse  
North Hills Hospital  
North Richland Hills, Texas

April 2002 - Present

Staff Nurse  
Fresenius Medical Care Dialysis Service  
Fort Worth, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with JPS Health Network, Fort Worth, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately five (5) months.
7. On or about August 6, 2001, while employed with JPS Health Network, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent withdrew Demerol for patients without physicians' orders. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that the administration of Demerol in excess frequency and/or dosage of the physician's order could result in the patients suffering from adverse reactions.
8. On or about August 6, 2001, while employed with JPS Health Network, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent withdrew Demerol for patients, but failed to document the administration of Demerol in patients' Medication Administration Records. Respondent's conduct above was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients which could result in an overdose.
9. On or about August 6, 2001, while employed with JPS Health Network, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Demerol belonging to the facility and patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
10. On or about August 6, 2001, while employed with JPS Health Network, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Demerol. Possession of Demerol is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Demerol by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
11. On or about January 26, 2002, while employed with North Hills Hospital, North Richland Hills, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Demerol in that Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Demerol. Possession of Demerol is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Demerol by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
12. On or about January 26, 2002, while employed with North Hills Hospital, North Richland Hills, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Demerol by accessing the Accudose Medication Dispensing Machine using another nurse's access code. Respondent was later found with Demerol in her possession. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.

13. On or about December 15, 2003, while employed with Fresenius Medical Care Dialysis Service, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent engaged in the use of Propoxyphene in that Respondent produced a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Propoxyphene. Possession of Propoxyphene is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Propoxyphene by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
14. On November 27, 2005, Respondent submitted a letter written by her current treating physician, Randall C. Perkins, D.O. The letter dated November 17, 2005, indicates that Respondent is doing exceedingly well. Dr. Perkins states, "Ms. Krupp-Ditman has been totally compliant since her initial reported substance issue in 2001. Her current diagnosis is major depressive disorder (clinical depression). There is no evidence of bi-polar disorder and this opinion has been confirmed by Dr. Elizabeth John, Psychiatrist. Ms. Krupp-Ditman appears very calm and appropriate on physical examination and has been a model of compliance as relates to her opioid dependency. She is totally compliant with her follow up visits related to her depressive disorder. In summary, I see no reason for any concerns whatsoever as relates to Ms. Krupp-Ditman's state licensure. She has been exemplary in her opioid recovery program."
15. 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.

#### 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 violation of Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(3),(4)&(19).
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 601378, heretofore issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.



ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 211.01 *et seq.* and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in compact states.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is 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 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 deliver the wallet-sized license issued to ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRÜPP, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of this Order for appropriate notation.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of the entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered

Nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. 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 can be found on the Board's website [www.bnc.state.tx.us](http://www.bnc.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of the entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. 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 on the Board's website, [www.bnc.state.tx.us](http://www.bnc.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT

CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. 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.

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional 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 professional nurse.

(6) For the duration of the stipulation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN 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 RN 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.

(7) 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 professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising Registered Nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for two (2) years of employment as a professional nurse.

(8) 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 an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(9) 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 second three (3) 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.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
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 will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board.

(10) RESPONDENT SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which shall be for substance abuse; and RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at

least; the date of each meeting, the name of each group attended, and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) months. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional 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 have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 22 day of December, 2005.



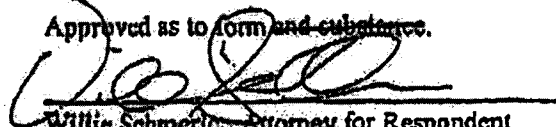
ABIGAIL NICHOLS RUTH KRUPP, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

SEAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form and substance.



Willie Schmeider, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 2005.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 22nd day of December, 2005, by ABIGAIL RICHTER RUTH KRUPP, Registered Nurse License Number 601378, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of January, 2006.



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