## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 227588

§ §

issued to ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, Vocational Nurse License Number 227588, 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)(3)&(10) and 301.453, 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 April 11, 2014, 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 Grayson County College, Denison, Texas, on August 1, 2008. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on March 30, 2010.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

03/2010 - 02/2013

GVN/LVN

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-

WNJ

Sherman, Texas

227588:141

C10

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

03/2013 - Present

Unknown

- 6. On or about October 6, 2009, Respondent was issued an Order of Conditional Eligibility by the Texas Board of Nursing, which required him to participate in and complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Order of the Board, dated October 6, 2009, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as a part of this Order.
- 7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian, Sherman, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately three (3) years.
- 8. On or about February 22, 2013, while employed with Texas Health Presbyterian, Sherman, Texas, Respondent admitted to misappropriating an IV pump belonging to the facility, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility of the cost of the IV pump.
- 9. On or about February 27, 2014, Respondent entered a plea of "Guilty" to THEFT PROP>\$500<\$1500, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on February 22, 2013, in the 15th District Court, Grayson County, Texas, under Cause No. 63727. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and he was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years. Additionally, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court cost.
- 10. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) and Nine (9), Respondent essentially states he took the IV pump, placed it in his bag, and went home. He was subsequently charged with Theft.
- 11. 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 301.451-301.555, 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)(G)&(13).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 227588, heretofore issued to ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, 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 RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS, 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 Texas Board of Nursing 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 <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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</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/compliance">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</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 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 THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations 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 stipulations 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) 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.

- (6) 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.
- (7) RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. Such reports are to be furnished each and every month for three (3) months. If therapy is recommended beyond the initial three (3) months, the reports shall then be required at the end of each three (3) month period for the remainder of the stipulation, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy.
- (8) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE his probation officer to submit written reports on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board. The reports shall indicate the RESPONDENT'S compliance with the court ordered probation. The reports shall be furnished each and every three

(3) month period until RESPONDENT is released from probation.

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.

Signed this 30 day of 3219	, 20 <u>/Y</u> .
RO	, Capindent
ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREU	X, RESPONDENT

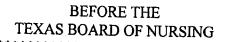


WHE	REFORE, PREMISES	CONSID	ERED, the	e Texas Bo	oard of Nu	ırsing	does
hereby ratify and adop	ot the Agreed Order that	t was sign	ned on the	30th	day of	July	<u>'</u>
	Γ DESMOND DEVERE						
said Order is final.							
	Effective this _	19th	_day of	Augus	t,	201	<u> 4</u> .

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

Setterin a Thomas

of said Board





accurate, and true copy of the documer
is on file or is of record in the offices o
Texas Board of Nursing

\*\*Executive Director of the Board

Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX APPLICANT for Eligibility for Licensure

§ ORDER OF§ CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as .... Board, considered the Application for Licensure by Examination and supporting documents filed by ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, hereinafter referred to as APPLICANT, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and APPLICANT's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that APPLICANT may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code.

APPLICANT waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 15, 2009, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On or about July 22, 2008, Applicant submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 2. Applicant waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
- 3. Applicant received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Grayson County College, Van Alstyne, Texas, in August 2008.
- 4. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:

- 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 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?"
- 5. Applicant disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
  - A. On February 12, 2007, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the misdemeanor offense of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Cause No. CR-2004-00468, in the Justice Court, Douglas Precinct, Cochise County, State of Arizona. Applicant was assessed a fine.
  - B. On June 25, 2009, Applicant entered a plea of guilty to the misdemeanor offense of Driving While Intoxicated, Cause No. 005-89347-08, in the County Court at Law No. 5 of Collin County, Texas. Applicant was sentenced to one hundred twenty (120) days confinement in the Collin County Jail, with imposition of sentence suspended and Petitioner being placed on community supervision for a period of fifteen (15) months.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. Applicant completed the Application for Licensure by Examination and answered "yes" to the question which reads in part as follows: "Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?"
- 8. A letter was submitted to the Board by Robert J. Hernandez, M.D., Primary Medicine of Sherman, Sherman, Texas, dated October 8, 2008. Dr. Hernandez states that Applicant has been his patient since August 2, 2008, for the diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder. During this time Applicant has shown no signs or symptoms of manic episodes and reports taking the prescribed Lithium as ordered.
- 9. The safety of patients and the public requires that all persons licensed to practice nursing be fit, and able to consistently practice nursing in autonomous roles under demanding and stressful conditions.

- 10. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
- Applicant has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Application for Licensure by Examination, his past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Applicant presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with the Board's character requirements in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27.
- 12. On February 15, 2009, the Executive Director considered evidence of Applicant's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Applicant currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
- 13. In consideration of Applicant's past conduct and subsequent evidence of rehabilitation, the Executive Director finds that Petitioner should be declared conditionally eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses.
- 14. Applicant's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- The Texas Board of Nursing has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- Applicant has submitted an Application for Licensure by Examination requesting a
  determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 of the Texas
  Occupations Code and the Board's Rule at 22 Texas Administrative Code Section 213.30.
- 3. Applicant shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452, Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. The Texas Board of Nursing may license an individual who has a history of substance abuse, after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.29, the Board determines the Applicant does not currently pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a Applicant, upon initial licensure as a registered 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**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that upon meeting the requirements for graduation and payment of any required fees, ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, APPLICANT, is CONDITIONALLY ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination). APPLICANT SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that APPLICANT 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 ORDERED that APPLICANT, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-PN®, shall be issued a license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IN ADDITION, IT IS THEREFORE FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that APPLICANT, upon initial licensure, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for APPLICANT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- (1) APPLICANT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days of initial licensure, apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) payable to TPAPN.
- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, APPLICANT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN contract to the Texas Board of Nursing.

- (3) APPLICANT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN contract during its term.
- (4) APPLICANT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN contract.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Applicant's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Applicant's license is encumbered by this Order, Applicant 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 Applicant wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD APPLICANT 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 revocation of a APPLICANT's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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# **APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION**

I am the Applicant in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all relevant information in conformity with Rule 213.29 at Texas Administrative Code. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Application for Licensure by Examination, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of conviction, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

In connection with my application, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Section 301.257, Texas Occupations Code, Section 301.452 (a),(b) and (c), Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rules 213.27, 213.28, and 213.29 at 22 Texas Administrative Code. I agree with all terms of this Order, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any stipulations set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate Nurse Permit to practice. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to registering for the NCLEX-PN® Examination or accepting any permit or license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Texas Board of Nursing enter this Order.

Signed this 25 day of September, 2009.

ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, APPLICANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of Lept. 2009.

GINGER K GARDNER Notary Public STATE OF TEXAS My Comm. Exp. 06-15-10

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the <u>25<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>September</u>, <u>2009</u>, by ROBERT DESMOND DEVEREUX, APPLICANT, for Licensure by Examination, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 6th day of October, 2009.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf

of said Board