

IN THE MATTER OF §
PERMANENT REGISTERED NURSE §
LICENSE NUMBER 771116 & §
PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE §
LICENSE NUMBER 192286 §
ISSUED TO §
MELINDA CHERRIE COCHRAN §

BEFORE THE TEXAS
BOARD OF NURSING
ELIGIBILITY AND
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE



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.
Melinda Cochran
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

To: Melinda Cherrie Cochran
6005 Overbrook FM Ln.
Joshua, TX 76058

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on **August 19, 2014**, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by

reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 771116, and Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 192286, previously issued to MELINDA CHERRIE COCHRAN, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 19th day of August, 2014.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charge filed June 5, 2014.

Re: Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 771116
& Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 192286
Issued to MELINDA CHERRIE COCHRAN
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 22 day of August, 20 14 a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Melinda Cherrie Cochran
6005 Overbrook FM Ln.
Joshua, TX 76058



BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse	§	
License Number 771116 &	§	
Permanent Vocational Nurse	§	
License Number 192286	§	
Issued to MELINDA CHERRIE COCHRAN,	§	
Respondent	§	BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, MELINDA CHERRIE COCHRAN, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 771116 which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading, and is a Vocational Nurse holding License Number 192286, which is in delinquent 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 August 27, 2011, Respondent was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol Region 6 District A, Waco, Texas, for POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1 < 1G, a State Jail felony offense.

On or about May 17, 2012, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE LESS THAN ONE GRAM, a State Jail felony offense committed on or about August 27, 2011, in the 18th Judicial District Court of Johnson County, Texas, under Cause No. F45787. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the State Jail Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for a period of two (2) years; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of one hundred forty dollars (\$140), along with court costs.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B)&(13).

CHARGE II.

On or about November 18, 2011, Respondent was arrested by the Cleburne Police Department, Cleburne, Texas, for POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1 >= 1G < 4G, a 3rd Degree felony offense, and POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUG, a Class A misdemeanor offense.

On or about May 17, 2012, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE 1-4 GRAMS, a 3rd Degree felony offense committed on or about November 18, 2011, in the 18th Judicial District Court of Johnson County, Texas, under Cause No. F45972. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Institutional Division of The Texas Department of Criminal Justice for a period of ten (10) years; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of one hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$189), along with court costs.

On or about May 17, 2012, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of POSSESSION OF A DANGEROUS DRUG, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on or about November 18, 2011, in the County Court at Law No. 1, Johnson County, Texas, under Cause No. M201102106. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Johnson County Jail for a period of twelve (12) months; 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 restitution in the amount of one hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$189), along with a fine and court costs. Furthermore, on or about April 16, 2013, Respondent's probation sentence under Cause No. M201102106 was extended for a period of six (6) months, beginning on May 16, 2013.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B)&(13).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33 and TEX. OCC. CODE Ch. 53. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

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

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

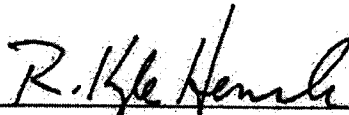
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NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

Filed this 5th day of June, 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

F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

D/2014.05.23