

IN THE MATTER OF §
PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE §
LICENSE NUMBER 93979 §
ISSUED TO §
KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU §

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.
Patricia Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU
8418 GREEN LEAF LAKE DR
HOUSTON, TX 77095

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on December 9, 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 93979, previously issued to KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU, 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 9th day of December, 2014.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



BY:

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

Attachment: Formal Charge filed October 3, 2014.

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 93979
Issued to KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 9th day of December, 2014, 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

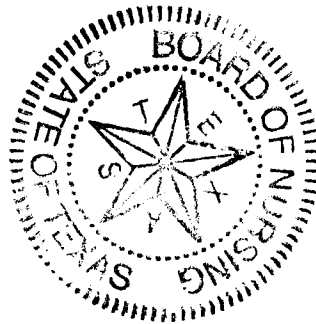
KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU
8418 GREEN LEAF LAKE DR
HOUSTON, TX 77095

Via USPS First Class Mail



BY:

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



I certify this to be a true copy of the records on file with the Texas Board of Nursing.

Date:

12/11/14

Signed:

[Signature]

In the Matter of § BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Vocational Nurse §
License Number 93979 §
Issued to KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU, §
Respondent § BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, KATHY SCOFELIA RITZOU, is a Vocational Nurse holding License Number 93979, 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 December 6, 2013, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Maxim Healthcare Services, Spring, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing services for Patient Medical Record Number 1400158013, Respondent lacked fitness to safely practice nursing in that she displayed erratic behavior to including, but not limited to: constantly rummaging through her make-up, taking frequent trips to the restroom and to her car. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A)&(1)(B) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4)&(5).

CHARGE II.

On or about December 6, 2013, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Maxim Healthcare Services, Spring, Texas, Respondent violated the privacy of Patient Medical Record Number 1400158013 by having a friend meet her at the patient's home while Respondent was caring for the patient. Respondent's conduct may have caused delayed distress for the patient, which may not be recognized or felt by the patient until harmful consequences occur.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B)&(1)(E), and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).

CHARGE III.

On or about December 9, 2013, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Maxim Healthcare Services, Spring, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Methamphetamine and Amphetamine in that she produced a specimen for a drug test resulted positive for Methamphetamine and Amphetamine. Possession of Methamphetamine and Amphetamine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substance Act). The use of Methamphetamine and/or Amphetamines by a Licensed Vocational 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, there by placing the patient in potential danger.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(E),(4),(5),(10)(A),(10)(D)&(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).

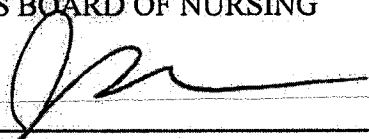
NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

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.

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 3 day of October, 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
Natalie E. Adelaja, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24064715
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/2014.08.18