

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 594516	§	
issued to MARTHA VALDEZ SALAS,	§	
a/k/a MARTHA VALDEZ ESPINOZA	§	ORDER



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.
Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARTHA VALDEZ SALAS, a/k/a MARTHA VALDEZ ESPINOZA Registered Nurse License Number 594516, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ART. 4525(a)(2)&(9)(eff. 9/1/1991), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on November 14, 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 notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Diploma in Nursing from Methodist Hospital, Lubbock, Texas, on June 1, 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

6. On or about June 4, 1993, Respondent submitted a Registration by Examination for Graduates of Schools in the United States to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which she answered "No" to the question:

"Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation?"

Respondent failed to disclose that on or about March 12, 1976, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of PASSING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a felony offense committed in the 207th Judicial District Court of Caldwell County, Texas, under Cause 8057. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Texas Department of Corrections for a period of four (4) years; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of four (4) years, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

On or about August 6, 1979, the probation granted Respondent under Cause No.8057 was revoked in the 22nd Judicial District Court of Caldwell County, Texas. As result of the revocation, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Texas Department of Corrections for a period of two (2) years.

7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states in 1976 she was charged with passing a forged instrument. She was placed on probation. She quit reporting to her probation officer because she had been in a abusive relationship. She would later find her probation was revoked. She was sentenced to shock probation for one hundred twenty (120) days. She sincerely and ignorantly believed that her past was gone and that she was getting a second chance in life.
8. Formal Charges were filed on September 8, 2014.
9. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on September 9, 2014.

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 §217.13(17)(eff. 4/1/1993).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ART. 4525(a)(2)&(9)(eff. 9/1/1991), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against

Registered Nurse License Number 594516, heretofore issued to MARTHA VALDEZ SALAS.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH A FINE** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state without first obtaining the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the nurse licensure compact party state where Respondent wishes to work.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT agrees to 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.

III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) **within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically**

indicated:

- A. **A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics** that 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. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. 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/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

IV. **MONETARY FINE**

RESPONDENT SHALL **pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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.

V. **RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)**

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.

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 entry of this 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 possible revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

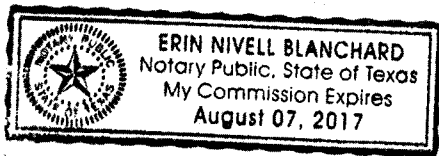
Signed this 27th day of January, 2015.

Martha Valdez Salas

MARTHA VALDEZ SALAS, a/k/a MARTHA VALDEZ ESPINOZA Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of January, 2015.

SEAL



Erin Nivell Blanchard

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 ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of January, 2015, by MARTHA VALDEZ SALAS, a/k/a MARTHA VALDEZ ESPINOZA, Registered Nurse License Number 594516, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of February, 2015.



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