



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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED  
Registered Nurse License Number 504950 §  
& Vocational Nurse License Number 49642 §  
issued to MARGARET HARRIS § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARGARET HARRIS, Registered Nurse License Number 504950 and Vocational Nurse License Number 49642, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in delinquent status. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from School of Vocational Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on September 2, 1969, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, on July 1, 1982. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 26, 1971, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 18, 1983.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/1971 - 4/1995	Staff Nurse	Baptist Medical Center San Antonio, Texas
4/1995 - 3/2001	Field Supervisor	Outreach Health Services San Antonio, Texas
3/2001 - 8/2014	Staff Nurse	Southwest General Hospital San Antonio, Texas
9/2014 - Present	Not Employed In Nursing	

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in that position for thirteen (13) years and four (4) months.
7. On or about July 26, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and assigned to monitor the Telemetry Unit's cardiac monitors, Respondent failed to recognize, respond to, and report the marked cardiac rhythm changes of Patient R.R. when the patient was displaying bradycardia, cardiac arrhythmia, heart block, and eventually was asystolic for nineteen (19) minutes during which Respondent did not intervene or notify the appropriate personnel. Subsequently, the patient was found unresponsive, had to be coded three (3) times, and expired later that night. Respondent's conduct was likely to harm the patient from the absence of timely and appropriate life saving intervention and potentially contributed the patient's subsequent demise.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that at the start of her shift she was informed that the monitor was not working. The monitor cut off without warning and continued to do this throughout the night. Respondent states that when she saw the rhythm change, she called the nurse and at that time they were calling the code. Respondent states that her boss was aware of the monitors not functioning properly from the night before and that MedTech informed her that the monitor was working properly, but it kept cutting out and he was unable to fix it.
9. Formal Charges were filed on October 28, 2014.
10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on October 29, 2014.
11. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

## 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 §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(M),(1)(P)&(3)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 504950 and Vocational Nurse License Number 49642, heretofore issued to MARGARET HARRIS, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.
6. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
7. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
8. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

## TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of Registered Nurse License Number 504950 and Vocational Nurse License Number 49642, heretofore issued to MARGARET HARRIS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself/himself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice vocational nursing, use the title "vocational nurse" or the abbreviation "LVN" or wear any insignia identifying herself/himself as a vocational nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a vocational nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
4. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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.

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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 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 this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

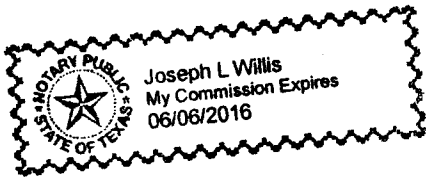
Signed this 4<sup>TH</sup> day of MAR, 2014.

Margaret Harris  
MARGARET HARRIS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4<sup>TH</sup> day of MAR, 2014.

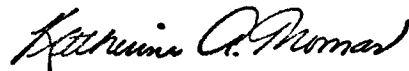
SEAL

Joseph L. Willis  
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 the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 504950 and Vocational Nurse License Number 49642, previously issued to MARGARET HARRIS.

Effective this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas".

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