



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

In the Matter of
Vocational Nurse License Number 206208
issued to ALBERTA SHEARS

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§

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, issued to ALBERTA SHEARS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas is inactive.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.
3. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Concord Career Institute, Arlington, Texas on April 8, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 19, 2006.

4. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

09/06 - 09/10	Staff Nurse	West Side Campus of Care Fort Worth, Texas
04/10 - 12/10	Staff Nurse	Benbrook Nursing & Rehab Benbrook, Texas

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

01/11 - 02/11		Unknown
03/11 - 11/11	Staff Nurse	Wedgewood Nursing Home Fort Worth, Texas
12/11 - Present		Unknown

5. On or about May 9, 2006, Respondent was issued an Order of Conditional Eligibility by the Board. A copy of the Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
6. On or about September 10, 2013, Respondent was issued the sanction of REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS through an Agreed Order by the Board. A copy of the Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
7. On or about September 11, 2014, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on September 10, 2013, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number One (1) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas Nursing jurisprudence and ethics...

8. On or about September 11, 2014, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on September 10, 2013, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration; the didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component...

9. On or about September 11, 2014, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on September 10, 2013, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in "Infection Control"...

10. On or about September 11, 2014, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on September 10, 2013, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Four (4) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills"...

11. On July 24, 2015, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's notarized statement, dated July 22, 2015, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

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(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, heretofore issued to ALBERTA SHEARS, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TAC §§213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, heretofore issued to ALBERTA SHEARS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing.

In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice vocational nursing, use the title of vocational nurse or the abbreviation LVN or wear any insignia identifying herself 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.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
3. 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.

Effective this 10th day of August, 2015.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



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

ALBERTA SHEARS
10240 DAWSON TRL
FORT WORTH, TX 76108
Vocational Nurse License Number 206208

Voluntary Surrender Statement

Dear Texas Board of Nursing:

~~I no longer desire to be licensed as a nurse. Accordingly, I voluntarily surrender my license(s) to practice in Texas.~~

I waive representation by counsel and consent to the entry of an Order which outlines requirements for reinstatement of my license. I understand that I may not petition for reinstatement until one (1) year from the effective date of the Order. I understand that I will be required to comply with the Board's Rules and Regulations in effect at the time I submit any petition for reinstatement.

Signature

Alberta Shears

Date

07/22/15

Vocational Nurse License Number 206208

The State of Texas

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this date personally appeared ALBERTA SHEARS who, being duly sworn by me, stated that he or she executed the above for the purpose therein contained and that he or she understood same.

Sworn to before me the 22nd day of July, 2015.

Sandra Cortez
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas





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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED
Vocational Nurse License Number 206208 §
issued to ALBERTA SHEARS § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of ALBERTA SHEARS, Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, 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)(10)&(13) 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 July 5, 2013, 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 of Vocational Nursing from Concord Career Institute, Arlington, Texas, on April 8, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 19, 2006.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2006-9/2010	Staff Nurse	West Side Campus of Care Fort Worth, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

4/2010-12/2010	Staff Nurse	Benbrook Nursing & Rehab Benbrook, Texas
1/2011-2/2011		Unknown
3/2011-11/2011	Staff Nurse	Wedgewood Nursing Home Fort Worth, Texas
12/2011- Present		Unknown

6. On May 9, 2006, Respondent was issued an Order of Conditional Eligibility by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. A copy of the May 9, 2006, Order of Conditional Eligibility is attached and incorporated by reference as part of this order.
7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, and had been in this position for eight (8) months.
8. On or about November 1, 2011, through November 2, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to appropriately administer intravenous Ceftriaxone and Vancomycin antibiotics to Resident DN through the resident's PICC (peripherally inserted central catheter) line. Respondent failed to prime the syringes and tubing, failed to ensure the correct rate of administration, and failed to utilize aseptic technique during the process. Respondent's conduct exposed the resident to risk of harm from of air embolism, incorrect infusion time and/or significant systemic infection.
9. On or about November 1, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to observe infection control procedures when she provided care to Residents DN, LS and CH without washing her hands or using hand sanitizer between resident contact. Respondent's conduct exposed the residents to a risk of harm from hospital acquired/transmitted infections.
10. On or about November 1, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to appropriately administer Jevity tube feeding to Resident JO when she failed to check for placement of the G-tube (gastrostomy tube) prior to flushing the tube with water and inappropriately forced the water flush into the resident's tubing. Respondent's conduct exposed the resident to a risk from harm from improper G-tube management, including risk of peritonitis.
11. On or about November 1, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to appropriately administer Fibersource formula to Resident LS via the resident's G-tube, in that she failed to administer the ordered

amount of water to the resident and check for placement of the G-tube prior to administering the water flush. Respondent's conduct exposed the resident to a risk from harm from improper G-tube management, including risk of peritonitis.

12. On or about November 1, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to utilize aseptic technique when she flushed Resident CH's PICC line when she failed to wash her hands prior to the procedure and failed to sanitize the port. Respondent's conduct exposed the resident unnecessarily to a risk of harm from systemic infection.
13. On or about November 2, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wedgewood Nursing Home, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent erroneously administered Zosyn IV (intravenously) to Resident DN, instead of the ordered Ceftriaxone. Respondent's conduct exposed the resident to a risk of harm from adverse reactions due to non-ordered intravenous antibiotics.
14. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through Thirteen (13), Respondent states that she prepared Resident DN's Ceftriaxone in the medication room, and then left to go take care of a patient who had fallen. Respondent states that she does not remember hanging the bag of Zosyn for Resident DN.

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)(C),(1)(M)&(1)(O) and 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 Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, heretofore issued to ALBERTA SHEARS, 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 not 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: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.*

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not 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. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor 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:*
<http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in "Infection Control," a 5.0 contact hours workshop presented in various locations by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. In order to receive credit for completion of this workshop, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this workshop 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. *Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address:* <http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.

(4) 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:* <http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.

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:

(5) 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.

(6) 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.

(7) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The 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.

(8) For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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.

(9) 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.

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

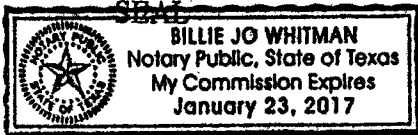
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and 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 29 day of July, 2013.

Alberta Shears

ALBERTA SHEARS, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of July, 2013.



Billie Jo Whitman

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 29th day of July, 2013, by ALBERTA SHEARS, Vocational Nurse License Number 206208, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of September, 2013.



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

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of
ALBERTA S. SHEARS
PETITIONER for Eligibility for
Licensure

§
§
§
§

ORDER OF
CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY

On the date entered below, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by ALBERTA S. SHEARS, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and PETITIONER's Certificate contained herein. Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may have violated Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 8, 2006, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about December 20, 2005, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Section 301.257 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
2. Petitioner waived representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review.
3. Petitioner is currently enrolled in a Vocational Nursing Program at Concorde Career Institute, Arlington, Texas.
4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to Question Number Two (2), which reads as follows: *"Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudication with or without prejudice of guilt."*

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On July 28, 1998, Petitioner was charged with the misdemeanor offense of Theft by Check in the County Criminal Court at Law No. 6 of Fort Worth, Texas. On February 24, 1999, the charge was dismissed.
 - B. On February 24, 1999, Petitioner was charged with the misdemeanor offense of Theft by Check in the County Court at Law No. 6 of Tarrant County, Texas. Petitioner entered a plea of guilty and proceedings were deferred without adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was sentenced to two (2) year probation. On February 26, 2001, Petitioner was discharged from probation.
 - C. On July 2, 2003, Petitioner was charged with the class A misdemeanor offense of Theft by Check in County Criminal Court at Law No. 1 of Fort Worth, Texas. On October 27, 2003, Petitioner entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to fifteen (15) days confinement.
6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
7. The Board received letters of support/recommendation for Petitioner from the following:
 - A letter of reference dated October 3, 2005, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner from S. Mitchell, LVN, Concorde Career Institute, Arlington, Texas.
 - A letter of reference dated October 21, 2005, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner from Chad D. Zandi, RN, BSN, Concorde Career Institute, Arlington, Texas.
 - A letter of reference dated December 13, 2005, was submitted to the Board on behalf of Petitioner from Anna M. Dye, MSN, RN, Concorde Career Institute, Arlington, Texas.
8. Licensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public, provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
9. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of the information provided by Petitioner.
10. Petitioner has sworn that her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
11. Petitioner has been advised that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect, or misleading will be considered and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through misrepresentation.

12. On February 8, 2006, the Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board of Nurse Examiners has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
2. Petitioner has submitted a petition in compliance with Section 301.257 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
3. Petitioner's criminal history reflects criminal conduct which is grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
4. Petitioner 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.
5. The Board may license an individual who has been previously convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any crime whether or not a sentence was imposed upon consideration of the factors set out in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to Chapter 53, Section 53.001 *et seq.*, Texas Occupations Code.
6. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Texas Administrative Code §213.27, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.

ORDER

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Vocational Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.*, and this Order.

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

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that PETITIONER, upon attaining a passing grade on the NCLEX-PN®, shall be issued a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas which shall bear the appropriate notation and PETITIONER SHALL be subject to the following stipulations.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. 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) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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 on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).*

(2) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of initial licensure in the State of Texas, successfully complete a course in nursing ethics. PETITIONER SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify PETITIONER's successful completion of the course. 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 on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, PETITIONER WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND PETITIONER MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A VOCATIONAL NURSE (VN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(3) PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER's license. PETITIONER SHALL present a complete copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(4) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Petitioner by the Board, to the Board's office within ten

(10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Petitioner by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a vocational nurse.

(5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Petitioner by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER's capability to practice vocational nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the PETITIONER. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a vocational nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past criminal conduct, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Board of Nurse Examiners from each jurisdiction in which I have been adjudged guilty by way of conviction or deferred order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Declaratory Order, 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 petition, 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 as set out in this Order. I acknowledge that this Order is stipulated and I understand that I am not eligible to receive a Graduate Vocational 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 Board of Nurse Examiners.

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.

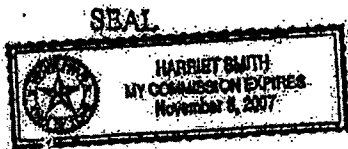
I understand that I can be represented by an attorney in this matter. I waive representation, notice, administrative hearing, and judicial review of this Order and request that the Executive Director of the Board of Nurse Examiners enter this Order.

Signed this 5 day of April, 2006

Alberta Shears, Sr.
ALBERTA S. SHEARS, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5 day of April, 2006

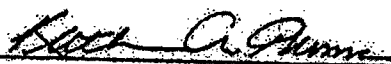
Harriet Smith
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Order of Conditional Eligibility that was signed on the 5th day of April, 2006, by ALBERTA S. SHEARS, PETITIONER, for Petition for Declaratory Order, and said Order is final.

Entered this 9th day of May, 2006.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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