



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 §  
Registered Nurse License Number 521121 §  
issued to ELAINE LOUISE PLINER §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 521121, issued to ELAINE LOUISE PLINER, 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 is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.
3. Respondent received an Associate Degree from Broward Community College, Pompano Beach, Florida, on December 1, 1981. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 21, 1985.
4. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:
 

Unknown	RN	VITAS Hospice
		Houston, Texas
5. On or about December 4, 2015, the Texas Board of Nursing received information of the following allegations:

On or about January 2, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with VITAS Hospice, Houston, Texas, and assigned to VITAS Inpatient Unit, Houston, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately and/or completely document a physician's verbal order.

On or about January 13, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with VITAS Hospice, Houston, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care with VITAS Inpatient Unit, Houston, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she admitted to taking Clonazepam, which makes her tired towards the end of her shift. She was observed acting oddly, having a difficult time completing her paperwork, and she was found sleeping in a chair in a patient's room. After Respondent could not be aroused, 911 was called and she was transported to the hospital. Respondent subsequently admitted to overdosing on Vicodin and having a history of depression.

6. On December 10, 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, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
7. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
8. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

#### 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)(T) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)(5),(10)(A)&(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 521121, heretofore issued to ELAINE LOUISE PLINER, 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.

THE BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 521121, heretofore issued to ELAINE LOUISE PLINER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is/are 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 professional nursing, use the title of registered nurse or the abbreviation RN or wear any insignia identifying herself 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/s is/are surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and, RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
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 December, 2015.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



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

Elaine Pliner

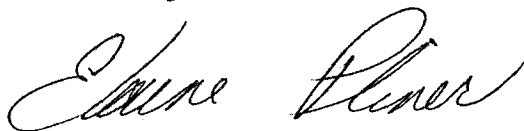
9148 White Oak Dr  
Conroe, TX. 77384

Attn TX. Board of Nursing,

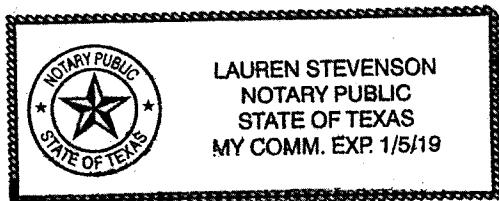
Please accept this as a voluntary surrender of R.N.  
License #521121.

I choose not to renew this in January.

Sincerely,



Elaine Pliner



Lauren Stevenson  
Dec. 7, 2015