



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or its record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.
Stephanie P. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of
Permanent Registered Nurse
License Number 618537
Issued to PAULA G ROGERS,
Respondent

§ BEFORE THE TEXAS
§
§
§
§ BOARD OF NURSING

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

TO: PAULA G ROGERS
817 LYNN COURT
ENNIS, TX 75119

A public meeting of the Texas Board of Nursing was held on March 29, 2016 at 333 Guadalupe, Room 3-460, Austin, Texas, in which the Temporary Suspension of Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 618537, issued to PAULA G ROGERS was considered pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE. Staff of the Texas Board of Nursing appeared and presented evidence and information concerning the conduct of PAULA G ROGERS and whether her continued practice as a nurse would constitute a continuing and imminent threat to the public welfare.

After review and due consideration of the evidence and information presented, the Board finds that the following charges are substantiated:

CHARGE I.

On or about March 11, 2016, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on February 9, 2016. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to abstain from the use of alcohol, in that she produced a specimen for a random urine drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (ETG) and Ethyl Sulfate (ETS), metabolites of alcohol (Ethanol). Section V, Stipulation A, of the Agreed Order, dated February 9, 2016, states, in pertinent part:

"...RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol..."

A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order, dated February 9, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

The Texas Board of Nursing further finds that, given the nature of the charges concerning her fitness to practice, the continued practice of nursing by PAULA G ROGERS constitutes a continuing and imminent threat to public welfare and that the temporary suspension of Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 618537, is justified pursuant to Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 618537, issued to PAULA G ROGERS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is, hereby SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY in accordance with Section 301.4551, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a probable cause hearing be conducted in accordance with Section 301.455(c) not later than seventeen (17) days following the date of the entry of this order, and a final hearing on the matter be conducted in accordance with 301.455(d) not later than the 61st day following the date of the entry of this order.

Entered this 29th day of March, 2016.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:



KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the Matter of § BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse §
License Number 618537 §
Issued to PAULA G ROGERS, §
Respondent § BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, PAULA G ROGERS, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 618537, 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 March 11, 2016, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on February 9, 2016. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to abstain from the use of alcohol, in that she produced a specimen for a random urine drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (ETG) and Ethyl Sulfate (ETS), metabolites of alcohol (Ethanol). Section V, Stipulation A, of the Agreed Order, dated February 9, 2016, states, in pertinent part:

“...RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol...”

A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order, dated February 9, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(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 policies related to Substance Use Disorders and Other Alcohol and Drug Related Conduct, which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of 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, located at 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33(b), which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.


BALANCE OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Order dated February 9, 2016.

Filed this 29th day of March, 2016.

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

John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24079751

Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 50511847

Jessica Lance, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24091434

John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 00785533

Jacqueline A. Strashun
State Bar No. 19358600

John Vanderford, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24086670

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460
Austin, Texas 78701
P: (512) 305-8657
F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Order of the Board dated February 9, 2016.

D(2015 11.18)



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
Registered Nurse License Number 618537 §
issued to PAULA G. ROGERS § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAULA G. ROGERS, Registered Nurse License Number 618537, 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)&(12), 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 October 16, 2015.

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 an Associate Degree from Navarro College-AD, Corsicana, Texas, on May 1, 1995. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 27, 1995.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

07/95 - 02/96	RN	Ennis Care Center
		Ennis, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

07/95 - 10/99	RN	Acute Home Health Care Ennis, Texas
03/96 - 03/97	RN	Claystone Healthcare Center Ennis, Texas
07/12 - 12/14	RN	Family Care of Texas Waxahachie, Texas
11/99 - Present	RN	Ennis Independent School District Ennis, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Ennis Independent School District, Ennis, Texas, and had been in that position for approximately fourteen (14) years and eleven (11) months.
7. On or about November 19, 2014, through November 25, 2014, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Ennis Independent School District, Ennis, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she received inpatient care for a mental health condition that could result in an injury to a patient or the public and chemical dependency. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
8. On or about August 5, 2015, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty/Nolo Contendere and was convicted of DWI-FIRST OFFENSE, a Class B misdemeanor offense, in the County Court at Law No. 2, Ellis County, Texas, under Cause Number 1412347. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Ellis County Jail for a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of two (2) years, and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states she had too much to drink and passed out. Respondent states when her husband found her, he called an ambulance and was taken to the hospital, where they mistakenly determined she had attempted to kill herself, and so referred Respondent to an inpatient facility. Respondent admits she drank too much wine at a nail salon after a fight with her husband when she received the DWI. Respondent states she pled no contest because she did not have money and did not want to go to trial. Respondent states she is much better now that she has spoken with a counselor, psychiatrist, and a sponsor.

10. 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 §217.12(1)(A),(4),(5)&(13).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 618537, heretofore issued to PAULA G. ROGERS, 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.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 618537, previously issued to PAULA G ROGERS, to practice nursing in Texas is hereby **SUSPENDED** with the suspension **STAYED** and Respondent is hereby placed on **PROBATION**, in accordance with the terms of this Order, for a minimum of two (2) years **AND** until Respondent fulfills the requirements 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. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a licensed healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment with the same employer for all three (3) months will not count towards completion of this requirement. 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 period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. **Indirect Supervision:** 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.

- D. **Nursing Performance Evaluations:** 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 and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

V. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, tramadol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, tramadol, and controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when Respondent obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
- For the first three (3) month [1st quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
 - For the next three (3) month [2nd quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
 - For the next six (6) month period [3rd & 4th quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
 - For the remainder of the probation period, random screens shall be

performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to further disciplinary action, including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

- C. **While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week**, one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on

the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

VI. THERAPY

While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a professional counselor approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. For the first three (3) month quarterly period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, reports are to be submitted to the Board each and every month. If therapy is recommended by the counselor for an additional period of time, the reports shall then be submitted to the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period in which the RESPONDENT is working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, for the remainder of the term of the Order, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy, whichever is earlier.

VII. PROBATION REPORTS

RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE his/her probation officer to submit written reports on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board. The reports shall indicate the RESPONDENT'S compliance with the court ordered probation. The reports shall be furnished each and every three (3) month quarterly period until RESPONDENT is released from probation.

VIII. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

IX. 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.

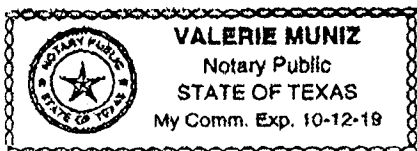
Signed this 21st day of DECEMBER 2015.

Paula G. Rogers RN
PAULA G. ROGERS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of December, 2015.

SEAL

Valerie Muniz
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 21st day of December, 2015, by PAULA G. ROGERS, Registered Nurse License Number 618537, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of February, 2016.



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