IN THE MATTER OF PERMANENT REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE NUMBER 677159 ISSUED TO SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL, RESPONDENT § BEFORE THE TEXAS
§ BOARD OF NURSING
§ ELIGIBILITY AND
§ DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

# I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document wh is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing. \*\*TEXAS\*\* Executive Director of the Board

# ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL 229 SUMMER WOOD DR SULPHUR, LA 70663

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on May 10, 2016, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 Tex. Admin. Code Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by

reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 Tex. Admin.Code § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this

Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 677159, previously issued to SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 10th day of May, 2016.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

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Attachment:

Formal Charge filed April 4, 2016.

d17r(2014.12.05)

Re: Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 677159
Issued to SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the Dyday of May, 20 16 a true and correct
copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as
follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL
229 SUMMER WOOD DR
SULPHUR, LA 70663

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

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In the Matter of	~ <b>&amp;</b>	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse	8	
License Number 677159	8	
Issued to SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL.	8	
Respondent	8	BOARD OF NURSING

## FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, SUZANNE MARIE CARROLL, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 677159, which is in delinquent 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 December 7, 2015, Respondent's Louisiana registered nurse license was Summarily Suspended by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A copy of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Notice of Summary Suspension of License dated December 7, 2015, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading. On or about February 15, 2016, the Summary Suspension was Continued through a Consent Order issued by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A copy of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Consent Order dated February 15, 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)(8), Texas Occupations Code.

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 and Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 53. 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, <a href="www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely

on adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct; on adopted policies related to Substance Use Disorders and Other Alcohol and Drug Related Conduct; and related to Behavior Involving Fraud, Theft, and Deception, which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

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, <a href="www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

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: Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Notice of Summary Suspension of License dated December 7, 2015, and Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Consent Order dated February 15, 2016.

Filed this 4th day of April , 20/6

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston, General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law

Crexas 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: Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Notice of Summary Suspension of License dated December 7, 2015, and Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Consent Order dated February 15, 2016.

D(2015.11.18)

# Louisiana State Board of Nursing

17373 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Telephone: (225) 755-7500 Fax: (225) 755-7582
http://www.lsbn.state.la.us

# By Regular and Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested

December 7, 2015

Ms. Suzanne Bock Carroll 229 Summerwood Drive Sulphur, LA 70663

Dear Ms. Carroll:

It has come to the attention of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing that you have been involved with incidents which could affect patient safety, specifically:

- On or about September 16, 2013, Respondent was arrested by the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office for Attempted Suicide and transported to the Lake Charles Memorial Hospital after Respondent sent a text message stating "goodbye I'm leaving this world".
- 2. On January 15, 2014, Respondent submitted her 2014 Registered Nurse Renewal and failed to disclose her arrest by the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office for Attempted Suicide.
- On or about April 16, 2015, Respondent was arrested by the Calcasien Parish Sheriff's Office for Prohibited Acts Schedule II and Prohibited Acts Drug Paraphernalia. The following items were found in Respondent's possession:
  - A pill bottle containing a white crystal substance, suspected to be Methamphetamine;
  - A glass smoking device which was still warm:
  - A plastic bag with white crystal substance; and
  - A prescription for 15 Acetaminophen Hydrocodone Capsules which were still packaged. When Respondent was asked why she had pills that did not belong to her in her vehicle, Respondent stated that she was a Hospice Nurse and the capsules belonged to a patient.

On May 4, 2015, a Bill of Information was filed charging Respondent with Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance II (Methamphetamine) and Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance (Acetaminophen Hydrocodone). On or about September 3, 2015, the charges were accepted by the Fourteenth Judicial District Attorney's Office and Respondent was recommended to the District Attorney's Pre-Trial Diversion Program. Respondent was placed on supervised probation for 12 months and was ordered to submit to a substance abuse evaluation and complete 40 hours of community service.

Grounds for disciplinary proceedings against a Registered Nurse are specified in La. R.S. 37:921 and authorizes the Board to probate, limit, restrict or revoke any license issued to Respondent on any of the following grounds:

### LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING Suzanne Bock Carroll Notice of Summary Suspension of License December 7, 2015

- Respondent has demonstrated actual or potential inability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to individuals because of use of alcohol or drugs; or has demonstrated inability to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to individuals because of illness or as a result of any mental or physical condition. La. R.S. 37:921 (4);
- Respondent failed to practice nursing in accordance with the legal standards of nursing practice; L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405 (a);
- Respondent failed to utilize appropriate judgment; L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405 (c);
- Respondent violated the confidentiality of information or knowledge concerning the patient;
   L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405 (e);
- Respondent has demonstrated improper use of drugs, medical supplies or equipment, patient's records, or other items; L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405 (h);
- Respondent misappropriated items of an individual, agency, or entity; L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405
   (i); and
- Respondent attempted to or obtained a license (including renewals), permit or permission to
  practice as a registered nurse, nurse applicant, or student nurse by fraud, perjury, deceit or
  misrepresentation; L.A.C. 46:XLVII.3405 (v).

La. R.S. 37:925 authorizes the Board to impose a fine of up to \$5,000.00 for each count or separate offense and to assess all costs of the proceedings including but not limited to the costs of investigation and disciplinary proceedings.

The health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana are threatened by this conduct. The seriousness of this conduct constitutes a threat to the safety of patients and to allow nursing practice in Louisiana to continue in light of the above would constitute a serious risk to the public's health, safety, and welfare. Since these allegations are directly related to safe patient care, the board has determined that summary suspension of your license to practice nursing in the state of Louisiana is in order.

# Therefore, your Louisiana RN license is summarily suspended.

Additionally, within 14 days, please submit the following to the Board office:

- A written statement that addresses the allegation(s) and provides information regarding the circumstances surrounding the incidents alleged; and
- A completed employment questionnaire (enclosed).

Pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:961.C:

If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined.

This will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) as F2 Unable to Practice Safely by Reason of Alcohol or Other Substance Abuse, H1 Narcotics Violation or Other Violation of Drug Statutes and 99, Other – Pending Criminal Matter.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING Suzanne Bock Carroll Notice of Summary Suspension of License December 7, 2015

NPDB Narrative: Registrant's license was summarily suspended on December 7, 2015, as the public health safety, or welfare required emergency action after Respondent was arrested for attempted suicide, failed to disclose said arrest on her 2014 renewal application and entered a pre-trial diversion program after she was arrested for possession of controlled substances and a patient's medication was found in her vehicle.

The Board will file a formal complaint for further action and will schedule an administrative hearing on February 17, 2016, at the Board office located at 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. At the administrative hearing, the Board will also consider the matter of ratification of staff action to summarily suspend your license.

Should you have any questions, or you would like the opportunity to meet with Board staff to discuss this matter, you may contact Wanda Matthews, Director of Hearings, at 225-755-7552.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, APRN, ACNS, NEA

**Executive Director** 

**Enclosures** 

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# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD DENURSING BATON ROUGE LOUISIANA

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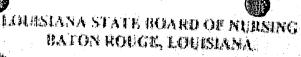
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# TERMS AGREED TO BY LICENSEE

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# LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING BATOS ROUGE: LOUISIANA:

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Executive Director: