

§ AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 231826 §

In the Matter of

issued to ANGIE DURAN LERMA § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the E considered the matter of ANGIE DURAN LERMA, Vocational Nurse License Number 231826, 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)(1) & (10), 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.

#### **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 current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Kaplan College, Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 26, 2010. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 16, 2010.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/10 - 11/11 Unknown

12/11 - present LVN

Retama Manor Alice, Texas

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- 6. On October 21, 2010, Respondent was issued an Agreed Eligibility Order by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the October 21, 2010, Agreed Eligibility Order, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On December 6, 2010, the Board issued a Nunc Pro Tunc Order correcting typographical errors found in the October 21, 2010, Agreed Eligibility Order. A copy of the December 6, 2010, Nunc Pro Tunc and October 21, 2010 Agreed Eligibility Order is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 8. On or about December 3, 2011, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Eligibility Order issued to her on October 21, 2010, 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:
  - (2) ... PETITIONER 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.
- 9. On or about December 10, 2011, while employed with Retama Manor, Alice, Texas Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Eligibility Order issued to her on October 21, 2010, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Eligibility Order which states, in pertinent part:
  - (3)...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 nurse.
- 10. On or about March 15, 2012, June 15, 2012, September 15, 2012, and December 15, 2012 while employed with Retama Manor, Alice, Texas, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Eligibility Order issued to her on October 21, 2010, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non compliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Five (5) of the Agreed Eligibility Order which states, in pertinent part:
  - (5) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer in nursing to submit, on forms provided by the Board, periodic report as to Petitioner's capability to practice nursing.....
- 11. In response to Findings of Fact Eight (8), Nine (9), and Ten (10, Respondent states her employer, Retama Manor, failed to follow through with the requirements of her Order.

- 12. Formal Charges were filed on March 18, 2016.
- 13. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on March 21, 2016.

### **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 231826, heretofore issued to ANGIE DURAN LERMA.
- 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 that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS AND A FINE** in accordance with the terms 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. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) within ninety (90) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

# IV. COMPLIANCE WITH PRIOR ORDER

The Order of the Board issued to RESPONDENT on October 21, 2010, is still in effect in its entirety and RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for completing the terms of that Order.

# V. 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 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 27 day of May, 2	20 16.
ANGIN DURAN LERMA, Respondent	
ANGIE DURAN LERMA, Respondent	

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of May, 20 16.

MARISOL MARTINEZ
Netary Public, State of Texas
Comm. Expires 06-28-2017
Notary ID 125838165

Notary Public in and for the State of

Approved as to form and substance.

Charles C. Smith, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this <u>and day of May</u>, 20 14.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>27<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>May</u>, 20<u>16</u>, by ANGIE DURAN LERMA, Vocational Nurse License Number 231826, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of September, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

IN THE MATTER OF § BEFORE THE TEXAS ANGIE DURAN LERMA, § BOARD OF NURSING

# NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Angie Duran Lerma 202 Sidbury Avenue Alice, TX 78332

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) finds that an Agreed Eligibility Order of the Board was mistakenly ratified and entered for Angie Duran Lerma. The Order mistakenly contained inconsistent usage of the terms "registered nurse" and "vocational nurse". Upon notice and hearing, administrative agencies, like the Courts, have the power to enter nunc pro tunc orders where it can be seen by reference to a record that what was intended to be entered, but was omitted by inadvertence or mistake, can be corrected upon satisfactory proof of its rendition provided that no intervening rights will be prejudiced. *Railroad Comm'n v. McClain*, 356 S.W.2d 330, 334 (Tex. App.--Austin 1962, no writ) (citing *Frankfort Ky. Nat. Gas Co. v. City of Frankfort*, 276 Ky. 199, 123 S.W.2d 270, 272).

The Executive Director, as agent of the Texas Board of Nursing, after review and due consideration of the record and the facts therein, invalidates the Agreed Eligibility Order of the Board for Angie Duran Lerma that is dated October 21, 2010, and submits and enters the corrected Agreed Eligibility Order of the Board, which contains the correct usage of the terms "registered nurse" and "vocational nurse" throughout the Order. No other changes to the Order have been made. Ms. Lerma received due process regarding her petition; therefore, her rights have not been prejudiced.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the corrected Agreed Eligibility Order of the Board is hereby approved and entered on the dates set forth below.

Order effective October 21, 2010.

Entered this 6th day of December, 2010.

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TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

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

## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of \$ AGREED ANGIE DURAN LERMA, \$ PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure \$ ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by ANGIE DURAN LERMA, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(3)&(10) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on July 27, 2010, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about February 26, 2009, PETITIONER submitted an Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Petitioner was enrolled in a Vocational Nursing Program at Career Centers of Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas, at the time of this petition.

- 4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads as follows: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
  - A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
  - B. been convicted of a felony?
  - C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
  - D. received deferred adjudication?
  - E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
  - F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
  - G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
  - H. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
  - I. been <u>cited</u> or charged with any violation of the law?
  - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

On or about September 19, 2002, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty to THEFT (a State Jail Felony offense committed on June 1, 2000), in the 28th District Court of Nueces County, Texas, under Cause Number 02CR1509A. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Petitioner were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years. Additionally, Petitioner was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of three thousand five hundred and five (\$3,505) dollars and court costs.

- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5), Petitioner states "I was charged with theft of Medicaid. The date on the case was June 2000. I plead guilty. I was convicted of stealing Medicaid, AFDC program. In my words I stayed too long on the program non-intentionally and was unaware of any wrong doing. I had no excuse for not coming forward. I served probation for one year. I was released early and fulfilled everything the judge asked of me to do."
- 8. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Petition for Declaratory Order, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- 9. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.

- 10. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
- 11. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.
- 12. 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.
- 13. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 14. Petitioner has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.
- 15. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- 2. On or about February 26, 2009, PETITIONER submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.30.
- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, 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 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.

Angie Lerma: 063 Page 3 of 9 S10ExP/July 27, 2010

- 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 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, 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.
- 7. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

#### **ORDER**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that, upon meeting the requirements for graduation of an appropriate program in nursing education and payment of any required fees, PETITIONER is ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® Examination) and/or the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination), as applicable.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Vocational Nurse (GVN) and/or as a Graduate Nurse (GN), as applicable, in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon payment of any required fees and upon attaining a passing grade on the appropriate National Council Licensure Examination, PETITIONER shall be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, and all licenses issued to PETITIONER shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

PETITIONER 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 this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER'S license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER wishes to work.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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. 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 Angie Lerma: 063 Page 5 of 9

S10ExP/July 27, 2010

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: <a href="http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A 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 REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER 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.
- (3) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, to the Angie Lerma: 063

  Page 6 of 9

  S10ExP/July 27, 2010

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 nurse.

- (4) PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed and practicing as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another Nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as PETITIONER and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. PETITIONER SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (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 nursing. These reports shall be completed by the 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) month period for one (1) year 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 PETITIONER'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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#### PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing 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 application and/or petition, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct 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 application and/or petition, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. 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 Temporary Permit to practice nursing. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to accepting any license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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.

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 Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

Signed this 30th day of August, 2010.	
Ange Duran Lema Angie duran Lerma, petitioner	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 th day of August, 2010.	
SEAL Notary Public in and for the State of	



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the 30th day of August, 2010, by ANGIE DURAN LERMA, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of October, 2010.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED ANGIE DURAN LERMA, \$ PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure \$ ELIGIBILITY ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Declaratory Order and supporting documents filed by ANGIE DURAN LERMA, hereinafter referred to as PETITIONER, together with any documents and information gathered by staff and Petitioner's Certification contained herein.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that PETITIONER may be ineligible for licensure pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(3)&(10) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

PETITIONER waived representation by counsel, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on July 27, 2010, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- On or about February 26, 2009, PETITIONER submitted an Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Petitioner was enrolled in a Vocational Nursing Program at Career Centers of Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas, at the time of this petition.

- 4. Petitioner completed the Petition for Declaratory Order and answered "yes" to the question which reads as follows: "For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
  - A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
  - B. been convicted of a felony?
  - C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
  - D. received deferred adjudication?
  - E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
  - F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
  - G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
  - H. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
  - I. been <u>cited</u> or charged with any violation of the law?
  - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations,)

5. Petitioner disclosed the following criminal history, to wit:

On or about September 19, 2002, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty to THEFT (a State Jail Felony offense committed on June 1, 2000), in the 28th District Court of Nueces County, Texas, under Cause Number 02CR1509A. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Petitioner were deferred without entering an adjudication of guilt and Petitioner was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years. Additionally, Petitioner was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of three thousand five hundred and five (\$3,505) dollars and court costs.

- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Five (5), Petitioner states "I was charged with theft of Medicaid. The date on the case was June 2000. I plead guilty. I was convicted of stealing Medicaid, AFDC program. In my words I stayed too long on the program non-intentionally and was unaware of any wrong doing. I had no excuse for not coming forward. I served probation for one year. I was released early and fulfilled everything the judge asked of me to do."
- 8. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Petition for Declaratory Order, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.

Angie Lerma: 063 Page 2 of 9 S10ExP/July 27, 2010

- 10. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character.
- 11. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past criminal conduct in light of the considerations and criteria provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§213.28 & 213.33, and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code,
- 12. 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.
- 13. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 14. Petitioner has been advised by the Board that any information found to be incomplete, incorrect or misleading to the Board or a subsequent discovery of a basis of ineligibility will be considered by the Board and may result in an ultimate determination of ineligibility or the later revocation of a license obtained through fraud or deceit.
- 15. Petitioner shall immediately notify the Board of any fact or event that could constitute a ground of ineligibility for licensure under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 301.452 and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.
- On or about February 26, 2009, PETITIONER submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order requesting a determination of eligibility for licensure in compliance with Sections 301.252, 301.253, 301.257 and 301.258, Texas Occupations Code, and the Board's Rules at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.30.
- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code.
- 4. The Board may probate the denial of a license under conditions for a specified term pursuant to Section 301.453, 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 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and evaluating the direct relationship to nursing according to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.28 and, if applicable, Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code.

Angie Lerma: 063 Page 3 of 9 S10ExP/July 27, 2010

- 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 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, 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.
- 7. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

#### <u>ORDER</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED that, upon meeting the requirements for graduation of an appropriate program in nursing education and payment of any required fees, PETITIONER is ELIGIBLE to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination), as applicable.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that PETITIONER SHALL NOT be eligible for temporary authorization to practice as a Graduate Nurse (GN), as applicable, in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that, upon payment of any required fees and upon attaining a passing grade on the appropriate National Council Licensure Examination, PETITIONER shall be issued the applicable license to practice nursing in the State of Texas, and all licenses issued to PETITIONER shall be subject to the following stipulations:

PETITIONER SHALL obtain and read the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice.

PETITIONER 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 this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while PETITIONER'S license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER wishes to work.

(1) PETITIONER SHALL, within one (1) year of licensure, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. PETITIONER 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. 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. Boardbe found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD PETITIONER PRACTICE AS A 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 (LVN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (2) PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on PETITIONER'S license(s). PETITIONER 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.
- (3) PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present 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 nurse.

Angie Lerma: 063 Page 6 of 9 S10ExP/July 27, 2010

- (4) PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, 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 PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (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 nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered 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) month period for one (1) year 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 PETITIONER'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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# PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I have fully and truthfully disclosed all of my past conduct which could constitute grounds for licensure ineligibility, and I have caused a complete and accurate criminal history to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing 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 application and/or petition, has been in conformity with the Board's character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past conduct 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 application and/or petition, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand Sections 301.157(d), 301.252, 301.253, 301.257, 301.258, 301.260, 301.452, and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, and Chapter 53, Section 53.001 et seq., Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code §§213.27, 213.28, 213.29, and 213.30. 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 Temporary Permit to practice nursing. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to accepting any license from the Texas Board of Nursing.

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.

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 Texas Board of Nursing ratify this Order.

Signed this 30 day of August, 2010.

Angle Duran Leuma
ANGIE DURAN LERMA, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 day of August, 2010.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the 30th day of August, 2010, by ANGIE DURAN LERMA, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of October, 2010

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf of said Board