BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 148151 §

issued to KAREN ANN LEGGETT § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KAREN ANN LEGGETT, Vocational Nurse License Number 148151, 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, on November 14, 2016.

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 is currently licensed to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Jasper Memorial Hospital, Jasper, Texas on July 22, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 7, 1994.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
- 6. On or about May 18, 2015, Respondent was issued a CORRECTIVE ACTION by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Corrective Actiondated May 18, 2015 is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.

xecutive Director of the Board

- 7. On or about May 19, 2016, Respondent failed to comply with the CORRECTIVE ACTION issued to Respondent on May 18, 2015, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Roman Numeral Two (II) of the Corrective Action which states, in pertinent part:
 - "...RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Corrective Action:

A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length.

8. On or about July 4, 2015, Respondent failed to comply with the CORRECTIVE ACTION issued to Respondent on May 18, 2015, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Roman Numeral Three (III) of the Corrective Action which states, in pertinent part:

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of this Corrective Action.

- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Number Seven (7) and Number Eight (8), Respondent states there is no excuse for not having completed the course, other than she let life and time slip by, and she is a single mother of 4 children with no family support system. Respondent states she regrets her past behavior, as it is affecting her ability to gain employment.
- 10. Formal Charges were filed on August 30, 2016.
- 11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on August 31, 2016.
- 12. First Amended Formal Charges were filed on October 25, 2016.
- 13. First Amended Formal Charges were mailed on October 25, 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 148151, heretofore issued to KAREN ANN LEGGETT.
- 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 RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION**WITH 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. 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 six (6) months of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. ABoard-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 <u>"Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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 <u>not</u> being offered by a preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

IV. MONETARY FINE

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RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) within forty-five (45) 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.

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.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the 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]

T. Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this B da

Notary Public in and for the State of

Effective this 19th day of January, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

er of \$ CORRECTIVE

In the Matter of	§	CORRECTIVE
Vocational Nurse License Number 148151	§ .	1
issued to KAREN ANN LEGGETT	` §	
A.K.A. KAREN BIRDWELL	§	ACTION

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KAREN ANN LEGGETT, A.K.A. KAREN BIRDWELL, Vocational Nurse License Number 148151, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent violated Section 301.452(b)(2),(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Corrective Action approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on March 23, 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 Corrective Action.
- 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 Jasper Memorial Hospital, Jasper, Texas, on July 22, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 7, 1994.
- 5. On or about June 9, 2014, Respondent completed a Delinquent (Expired) License Renewal Form and answered "No" to the question which reads: "Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:
 - 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 cited 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?"
- 6. Respondent failed to truthfully disclose the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. Respondent failed to disclose that on or about July 8, 2011, she was charged in the County Court at Law of Nacogdoches County, Texas, under Cause No. CF1101251 for THEFT BY CHECK, a misdemeanor offense committed on or about June 8, 2010. On or about February 11, 2014, Cause No. CF1101251 was dismissed for the reason: "in the interest of justice."
 - B. Furthermore, Respondent failed to disclose that on or about June 3, 2014, she entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on or about March 11, 2014, in the County Court of Shelby County, Texas, under Cause No. 14-34278CR. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 7. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.

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. Respondent's conduct is sufficient to prove violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I) and Section 301.452(b)(2),(3)&(10), but constitutes grounds for corrective action pursuant to Section 301.652, Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.32(2)(D) in lieu of disciplinary action.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED that RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the requirements of this **CORRECTIVE ACTION**.

I. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

While under the terms of this Corrective Action, 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.

Until successfully completed, this Corrective Action SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

II. 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 Corrective Action:

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.

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 <u>not</u> being offered by a preapproved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of*

Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

III. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Corrective Action.

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. EFFECT OF CORRECTIVE ACTION

<u>Upon full compliance with the terms of this Corrective Action</u>, this matter shall be closed and this Corrective Action shall remain confidential.

Should Respondent fail to successfully complete the terms of this Corrective

Action, this matter shall be terminated immediately and shall be treated as a disciplinary proceeding
under Subchapter J, Tex. Occ. Code.

Should Respondent commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Corrective Action shall be treated as prior disciplinary action.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Corrective Action. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Corrective Action. I neither admit nor deny the violation alleged herein. By my signature on this Corrective Action, I agree to the entry of this Corrective Action and to successfully complete its conditions, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Corrective Action. I understand that when this Corrective Action becomes final and the terms of this Corrective Action become effective, a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Corrective Action, 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 12 day of 12, 2015.

KARIJN ANN LEGGETT, W.A. KAREN BIRDWELL, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>/2</u> day of

12 day of May

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SEAL

SABRINA GRIFFIN Notary Public State of Texas fy Comm. Expires 2-26-2018

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby impose the Corrective Action that was signed on the 12th day of May, 2015, by KAREN ANN LEGGETT, A.K.A. KAREN BIRDWELL, Vocational Nurse License Number 148151, and said Corrective Action is final.

Effective this 18th day of May, 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board