BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



AGREED In the Matter of

Vocational Nurse License Number 300265

§ ORDER issued to ALMA D. HARVEY

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALMA D. HARVEY, Vocational Nurse License Number 300265, 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)&(13), 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 25, 2016.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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).
- Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order. 2.
- Respondent's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current 3. status.
- Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Southwest Texas Junior 4. College, Uvalde, Texas on May 15, 2010. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on April 12, 2011.
- Respondent's nursing employment history includes: 5.

4/2011 - 7/2011 Unknown

8/2011 - 1/2012 Licensed Vocational Nurse Tom Bowles Detention Center Eagle Pass, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

8/2011 - 9/2015	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Remnant Health Systems Inc. Eagle Pass, Texas
8/2014 - 12/2015	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Epic Health Services Unknown
12/2015 - 3/2016	Unknown	
3/2016 - 5/2016	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Angels of Care Home Health Services Sherman, Texas
6/2016 - Present	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Epic Health Services Unknown
7/2016 - Present	Licensed Vocational Nurse	National Nursing and Rehabilitation Eagle Pass, Texas

- 6. On or about February 23, 2011, Respondent received an Agreed Eligibility Order by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated by reference as part of this Order.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Home Health Services, Sherman, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) months.
- 8. On or about May 2, 2016, through May 11, 2016, whiled employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent failed to document in the medical record, care provided to Patient Number 10008, whom she was assigned to care for and was also her daughter. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to provide further care.
- 9. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states the whole reason she became a nurse was to take care of her own family. Respondent states she can assure that she will never resign to the care of her own daughter.

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 $\S\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D)\&(2)(A)$ and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 300265, heretofore issued to ALMA D. HARVEY.
- 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** 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 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.** A Board-approved course in nursing documentation that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. 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 not 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.

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 clinical healthcare setting, <u>for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month</u> for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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 four (4)

quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

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 20 day of April , 201 of

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29

day of

2017

SEAL

JESUS A FELAN Notary ID # 11170467 My Commission Expires May 21, 2020 Notary Public in and for the State of

Tevar

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>20th</u> day of <u>April</u>, 20<u>17</u>, by ALMA D. HARVEY, Vocational Nurse License Number 300265, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of June, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



I do hereby centify this to be a comple accurate, and true copy of the docum is on file or is of record in the offices. Texas Board of Nursing. Texas Board of Nursing. Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$
ALMA DELIA DIAZ a/k/a ALMA DELIA CRUZ, \$
PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure \$

ELIGIBILITY ORDER

AGREED

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boa considered the Application by Examination, which has been processed as a Petition for Declaratory Order pursuant to 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.2(b) and §213.30, and supporting documents filed by ALMA DELIA DIAZ a/k/a ALMA DELIA CRUZ, 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)(2)&(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 February 3, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On or about February 20, 2009, PETITIONER submitted an Application by Examination 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 §217.2(b) and §213.30.
- 2. Petitioner waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.

- 3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Southwest Texas Junior College, Uvalde, Texas, on May 15, 2010.
- 4. Petitioner completed the Application by Examination answered "No" 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 failed to disclose the following criminal history, to wit:
 - A. On or about May 7, 2001, Petitioner was arrested by the Eagle Pass Police Department, Eagle Pass, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 13730 with DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED (a Misdemeanor offense). On or about April 9, 2007, Cause No. 13730 was dismissed in County Court, Maverick County, Texas. Petitioner was convicted in another case; Maverick County Cause No. 19733. Petitioner was to pay a fine and court costs on Cause No. 19733.
 - B. On or about March 26, 2002, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED (a Misdemeanor offense committed on July 27, 2001), in the County Court, Maverick County, Texas, under Cause No. 13,532. Petitioner was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
 - C. On or about August 16, 2001, Petitioner was arrested by the Eagle Pass Police Department, Eagle Pass, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 14066 with DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED (a Misdemeanor offense). On or about April 9, 2007, Cause No. 14066 was dismissed in County Court, Maverick County, Texas. Petitioner was convicted in another case; Maverick County Cause No. 19733. Petitioner was ordered to pay fine and court costs on Cause No. 19733.

- D. On or about August 16, 2001, Petitioner was arrested by the Eagle Pass Police Department, Eagle Pass, Texas, and subsequently charged under Cause No. 13962 with RESISTING ARREST (a Misdemeanor offense). On or about April 9, 2007, Cause No. 13962 was dismissed in County Court, Maverick County, Texas. Petitioner was convicted in another case; Maverick County Cause No. 19733. Petitioner was ordered to pay a fine and court costs on Cause No. 19733.
- E. On or about September 23, 2006, Petitioner was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol Regional 4 District B, Abilene, Texas, for DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID (a Class B misdemeanor offense). Notice to decline prosecution was granted for the reason that evidence was insufficient.
- F. On or about March 23, 2007, Petitioner entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID (a Misdemeanor offense committed on March 15, 2006), in the County Court, Maverick County, Texas, under Cause No. 19733. Petitioner was ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
- 6. There is no evidence of any subsequent criminal conduct.
- 7. Petitioner has sworn that, with the exception of matters disclosed in connection with the Application by Examination, her past behavior conforms to the Board's professional character requirements at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27.
- 8. Petitioner presented no evidence of behavior which is inconsistent with good professional character.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. The Executive Director's review of the grounds for potential ineligibility has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 13. 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.
- 14. 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 20, 2009, PETITIONER submitted an Application by Examination 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 §217.2(b) and §213.30.
- 3. Petitioner's history reflects conduct which may constitute grounds for denial of a license under Section 301.452(b)(2)&(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.
- 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 ALMA DELIA DIAZ:232

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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 ALMA DELIA DIAZ:232

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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. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(2) PETITIONER SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). PETITIONER SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of licensure. 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.

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 18th day of february , 2011.

ALMA DELIA DIAZ a/k/a ALMA DELIA CRUZ, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of february , 2011

SEAL

JESUS A. FELAN MY COMMISSION EXPIRES May 21, 2012 WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Eligibility Order that was signed on the <u>18th</u> day of <u>February</u>, <u>2011</u>, by ALMA DELIA DIAZ a/k/a ALMA DELIA CRUZ, PETITIONER for Eligibility for Licensure, and said Order is final.

Effective this 23th day of February, 2011.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board