



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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Registered Nurse License Number 571898 §  
issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, Registered Nurse License Number 571898, 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 Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on January 6, 2020.

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 Agreed Order.
3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in suspended status.
4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Trinity Valley Community College-Ad, Kaufman, Texas, on May 1, 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 26, 1991.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

04/1992-06/1996	RN	Haven Nursing Home Mexia, Texas
-----------------	----	------------------------------------

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

05/1991-05/1997	RN	Blackland MHMR Mexia, Texas
06/1997-05/2000	Campus RN	Mexia State School Mexia, Texas
12/1999-01/2009	RN	SMC Health Resources Fairfield, Texas
06/2000-06/2002	Nurse Manager	Austin State School Austin, Texas
08/2002-02/2006	Nurse Manager	Mexia State School Mexia, Texas
08/2006-06/2007	MDCP Nurse Consultant	DADS Corsicana, Texas
11/2007-05/2008	RN	Supplemental Health Care Agency Dallas, Texas
10/2007-05/2008	RN	Clinical Staffing Solutions Galveston, Texas
06/2008-07/2010	Clinical III	Corsicana State Home Corsicana, Texas
09/2010-02/2016	Field RN	Jorden Pediatrics/Exceptional Home Care Tyler, Texas
02/2016-09/2018	Unknown	
10/2018	Charge Nurse	Jeffrey Place Nursing Waco, Texas

6. On or about April 29, 2016, the Board accepted the Voluntary Surrender of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas through an Order of the Board. A copy of the April 29, 2016, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.

7. On or about November 14, 2017, Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas was Reinstated through an Order of the Board. A copy of the November 14, 2017, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
8. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a charge nurse with Jeffrey Place Nursing, and had been in that position for approximately one (1) year.
9. On or about August 22, 2019, Respondent failed to comply with the Reinstatement Agreed Order issued to her on November 14, 2017, by the Texas Board of Nursing. On or about August 22, 2019, Respondent produced a specimen for a random drug screen, which resulted positive for Propofol-Glucuronide 3.3 ug/ml. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Six (VI), Subsection (A), of the order which reads, in pertinent part:
  - A. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose.
10. Formal Charges were filed and Respondent's license was suspended on December 23, 2019.

#### 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(10)(D)&(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 Registered Nurse License Number 571898, heretofore issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER.
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 Registered Nurse License Number 571898, previously issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas is/are hereby **SUSPENDED** and said suspension is **STAYED** and RESPONDENT is hereby placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of two (2) years **AND** until RESPONDENT fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. As a result of this Order, RESPONDENT'S license(s) will be designated "single state" and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

### 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 Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 *et seq.*, and this Agreed Order.

### III. SUPERSEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Agreed Order SHALL supersede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

#### IV. UNDERSTANDING BOARD ORDERS

Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT must successfully complete the Board's online course, "Understanding Board Orders", which can be accessed on the Board's website from the "Discipline & Complaints" drop-down menu or directly at: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp>. Upon successful completion, RESPONDENT must submit the course verification at the conclusion of the course, which automatically transmits the verification to the Board.

#### V. 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 and video programs will not be approved.
- B. **The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"** a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at [www.bon.texas.gov/compliance](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

## VI. 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, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. 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. **No Night or Rotating Shifts, Overtime, or On-Call:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which RESPONDENT is regularly assigned.
- D. **No Critical Care:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.

- E. **No Administration of Controlled Medications:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, Propofol, or other synthetic opiates.
- F. **Direct Supervision:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on 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.
- G. **Indirect Supervision:** For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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 of 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.
- H. **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 individual who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

## VII. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL **abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances,** except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed,

RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that the prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when RESPONDENT obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.

- For the first three (3) month [1<sup>st</sup> quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
- For the next three (3) month [2<sup>nd</sup> quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
- For the next six (6) month period [3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
- For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

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

Specimens shall be screened for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

Amphetamine	Methamphetamine	MDMA
MDA	Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-o-alprazolam	Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam	Clonazepam
Desmethyldiazepam	Lorazepam	Midazolam
Oxazepam	Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butabarbital	Butalbital	Pentobarbital
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	Codeine



Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone
Morphine	Opiates	Oxycodone
Oxymorphone	Propoxyphene	Cannabinoids
Cocaine	Phencyclidine	Ethanol
Heroin	Fentanyl	Tramadol
Meperidine	Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Nalbuphine	Ketamine	Propofol

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, **RESPONDENT SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not RESPONDENT has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day** and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, **a Board representative may appear** at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

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

- C. **While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week**, one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

## VIII. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed Order, result in subsequent judicial action, including a

deferred disposition, RESPONDENT may be subject to further disciplinary action, up to, and including, revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

**IX. FURTHER COMPLAINTS**

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

**X. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)**

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) and/or privilege(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this 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 this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing and 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) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

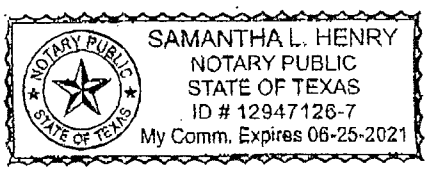
Signed this 8 day of Jan, 2020.

Bennie Denise Gardiner  
BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of Jan, 2020.

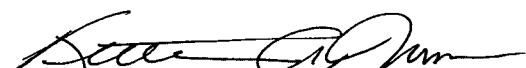
SEAL

Samantha L Henry  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the \_8th\_ day of \_January\_, 20\_20\_, by BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, Registered Nurse License Number 571898, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this \_8th\_ day of \_January\_, 20\_20\_.

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



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

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of § REINSTATEMENT  
Registered Nurse License Number 571898 §  
issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER § AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Reinstatement of Registered Nurse License Number 571898, held by BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Reinstatement of Registered Nurse License Number 571898, held by BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner. Petitioner waived notice and hearing and agree to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on August 25, 2017.

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 Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Trinity Valley Community College, Kaufman, Texas, on May 1, 1991. Petitioner was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 26, 1991.
4. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

04/1992-06/1996 RN Haven Nursing Home  
Mexia, Texas

Petitioner's nursing employment history continued:

05/1991-05/1997	RN	Blackland MHMR Mexia, Texas
06/1997-05/2000	Campus RN	Mexia State School Mexia, Texas
12/1999-01/2009	RN	SMC Health Resources Fairfield, Texas
06/2000-06/2002	Nurse Manager	Austin State School Austin, Texas
08/2002-02/2006	Nurse Manager	Mexia State School Mexia, Texas
08/2006-06/2007	MDCP Nurse Consultant	DADS Corsicana, Texas
11/2007-05/2008	RN	Supplemental Health Care Agency Dallas, Texas
10/2007-05/2008	RN	Clinical Staffing Solutions Galveston, Texas
06/2008-07/2010	Clinical III	Corsicana State Home Corsicana, Texas
09/2010-02/2016	Field RN	Jorden Pediatrics/Exceptional Home Care Tyler, Texas

5. On or about April 29, 2016, Petitioner voluntarily surrendered her license to practice nursing through an Order of the Board. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order dated April 29, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
6. On or about August 10, 2017, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

7. Petitioner presented the following in support of said petition:
  - 7.1. Evidence of sixteen (16) monthly negative drug screens, dated between May 18, 2016, and August 8, 2017.
  - 7.2. Support group attendance records showing Petitioner's dates of attendance beginning April 1, 2016 through May 17, 2017.
  - 7.3. Letter of support dated January 20, 2017 from Maria Araceli Martinez, APRN, Parkview Medical Clinic, Mexia, Texas, stating she has been Petitioner's primary care physician since 2015. Dr. Araceli further states Petitioner is in overall, good physical and mental health and is considered safe to provide care of others.
  - 7.4. Letter dated January 20, 2017 from Nicholas R. Tooley, Legal Assistant (Retired), stating he met Petitioner at the Wade Wellness Center, Corsicana, Texas, through group counseling. Mr. Tooley states Petitioner has been able to discuss and process issues in a nonjudgmental environment.
  - 7.5. Letter of support dated January 22, 2017 from Danny Cockrell, stating in all the time Petitioner worked for him, she was reliable, worked hard, courteous, respectful and humble.
  - 7.6. Letter of support dated February 2, 2017 from Karol Wade Wright, M.A., L.P.C., B.C.P.C., Wade Wellness Center, Corsicana, Texas, stating Petitioner began receiving services at The Wade Wellness Center on or about April 15, 2016. As Petitioner's counselor, Ms. Wright states Petitioner was very insightful, knowledgeable, and devoted to the field of nursing. Petitioner continues to participate in groups.
  - 7.7. Letter of support dated February 14, 2017 from James E. Boyd, stating he has known Petitioner for the last twenty (20) years. Mr. Boyd, states Petitioner made mistakes she regrets and has worked hard to right things with her self and the community and he knows will be a better person and better in her profession.
  - 7.8. Letter of support dated February 15, 2017 from Pat Bolden, stating Petitioner has been working in their food pantry at Glad Tidings Church. Mr. Bolden found Petitioner to be honest, reliable and courteous. Mr. Bolden feels Petitioner would do well to go back into nursing.
  - 7.9. Letter of support dated July 25, 2017 from Nancy Isham, stating she has known and worked with Petitioner for several years at Glad Tidings Food Pantry, Mexia, Texas. Petitioner has been a faithful volunteer, dedicated, and hard working.
  - 7.10. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.

8. 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 and relicensure.
9. Relicensure 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.
10. The Executive Director's review of Petitioner's eligibility for relicensure has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.
3. 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.
4. 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).

#### TERMS OF ORDER

##### I. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of BENNIE DENISE GARDINER for reinstatement of license to practice nursing in the state of Texas be **GRANTED** and Registered Nurse License Number 571898 is hereby **REINSTATED** in accordance with the terms of this Order.



## II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER agrees to obtain, read, and 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.

- A. PETITIONER SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and PETITIONER'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER wishes to work.

## III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, Petitioner SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of relicensure, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), Petitioner 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. Petitioner SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at [www.bon.texas.gov/compliance](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

#### IV. MONITORING FEE

PETITIONER SHALL pay a monitoring fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of relicensure. 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. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, PETITIONER must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. 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:** PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER 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:** PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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. Direct Supervision:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly 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. 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). 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.
- D. No Night or Rotating Shifts, Overtime, or On-Call:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which PETITIONER is regularly assigned.
- E. No Critical Care:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.
- F. No Administration of Controlled Medications:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, Propofol, or other synthetic opiates.
- G. Indirect Supervision:** For the remainder of the probation period, PETITIONER 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 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.

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

## VI. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

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

- For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

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

**Specimens shall be screened** for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

Amphetamine	Methamphetamine	MDMA
MDA	Alprazolam	Diazepam
Alpha-o-alprazolam	Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam	Clonazepam
Desmethyldiazepam	Lorazepam	Midazolam
Oxazepam	Temazepam	Amobarbital
Butobarbital	Butalbital	Pentobarbital
Phenobarbital	Secobarbital	Codeine
Hydrocodone	Hydromorphone	Methadone
Morphine	Opiates	Oxycodone
Oxymorphone	Propoxyphene	Cannabinoids
Cocaine	Phencyclidine	Ethanol
Heroin	Fentanyl	Tramadol
Meperidine	Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Nalbuphine	Ketamine	Propofol

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, **PETITIONER SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not PETITIONER has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day** and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, **a Board representative may appear** at the PETITIONER'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require PETITIONER to produce a specimen for screening.

**Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens.** Any positive result for which PETITIONER does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject PETITIONER to further disciplinary action, including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of PETITIONER'S

license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

- C. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by PETITIONER. PETITIONER SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

#### VII. THERAPY

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

#### VIII. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

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 may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of convictions, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license(s) to practice nursing in the state of Texas. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas will be revoked, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

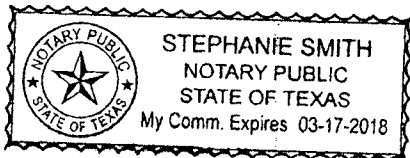
Signed this 29 day of September, 2017.

Bennie Denise Gardiner

BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of September, 2017

SEAL



Stephanie Smith  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 29th day of September, 2017, by BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, Registered Nurse License Number 571898, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of November, 2017.



---

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





impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in patients' conditions, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.

7. On or about October 26, 2015, that Respondent pled Nolo Contendere to HINDERING APPREHENSION OR PROSECUTION KNOWN FELON, a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony offense committed on August 23, 2014, in the 77<sup>th</sup> District Court of Limestone County, Groesbeck, Texas, under Cause No. 13434-A. As a result of the plea, the proceedings against Respondent were deferred, without entering an adjudication of guilt, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of four (4) years, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00), along with a fine and court costs.
8. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
9. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
10. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(4),(10)(D),(11)(B)&(13);
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(3),(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 571898, heretofore issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

6. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
7. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
8. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

### TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 571898, heretofore issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until:
  - A. One (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and
  - B. RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition for reinstatement.
3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.  
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

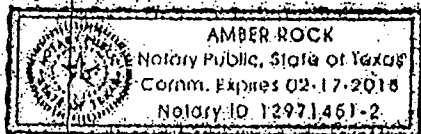
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 27 day of April, 2016

Bennie Denise Gardiner  
BENNIE DENISE GARDINER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of April, 2016

SEAL



[Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

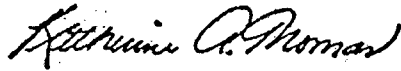
Approved as to form and substance.

[Signature]  
Steve A. Keathley, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 29 day of April, 2016

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of  
the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License  
Number 571898, previously issued to BENNIE DENISE GARDINER.

Effective this 29th day of April, 2016.



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