

## Texas Board of Nursing

333 Guadalupe Street, Ste. 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701 Phone: (512) 305-7400 Fax: (512) 305-7401 www.bon.texas.gov

> Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN Executive Director

March 9, 2021

Certified Mail No. 9214 8901 9403 8300 0033 9490 78
Return Receipt Requested
Copy Via USPS First Class Mail

Sandra Brennet Patterson 2001 Ming Drive Ft Worth, TX 76134

Dear Ms. Patterson:

Your Petition for Licensure Reinstatement and the supporting information related to your potential ineligibility for relicensure was considered by the Executive Director on November 9, 2020.

Pursuant to the Occupations Code §§301.257, 301.452, and 301.453, you have been found to be ineligible for reinstatement of licensure as a nurse in the State of Texas based upon the grounds discussed below. This is a final determination of licensure reinstatement denial.

Our records indicate the following:

On August 23, 2019, you voluntarily surrendered your license to practice vocational nursing. According to the voluntary surrender order, on or about April 4, 2017, through February 28, 2018, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Ebenezer Home Health Care, Mesquite, Texas, you financially exploited Patient Medical Record Number 796, in that you withdrew funds from the patient's bank account for your personal use. You subsequently repaid over \$10,000 of the stolen funds to Patient Medical Record Number 796 to avoid prosecution.

On or about October 15, 2020, you completed a forensic psychological evaluation with polygraph performed by Frank A Pugliese, Ph.D., P.C. According to Dr. Pugliese, you would not be able to consistently behave in accordance with Board rules 213.27 - 213.29, as well as the minimum nursing standards set forth in Board Rule 217.11, and it is his opinion there is strong probability you would not consistently avoid behaviors identified by the Board as constituting unprofessional conduct.

You are subject to denial of licensure for this conduct pursuant to the following subsections of the Occupations Code §301.452(b):

• §301.452(b)(10): "unprofessional conduct in the practice of nursing that is likely to deceive, defraud, or injure a patient or the public;"

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• §301.452(b)(12): "lack of fitness to practice because of a mental or physical health condition that could result in injury to a patient or the public;"

The Board also requires petitioners to demonstrate their ability to consistently conform to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice; to possess good professional character; and to pose no threat to the health and safety of patients and the public. The Board has adopted a rule, located at 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27, that sets forth the factors and disciplinary and eligibility policies and guidelines that must be used in evaluating good professional character in eligibility and disciplinary matters. Based upon the factors specified in §213.27, you have failed to provide sufficient evidence of good professional character required by §213.27. The Board has also adopted a rule, located at 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.29, regarding fitness to practice. You have failed to provide sufficient evidence of current fitness to practice based upon the criteria set forth in this rule.

Texas Occupations Code Chapter 301, as well as the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27; §213.29-§213.33, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies are hereby incorporated by reference herein and may be located on the Board's website at <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

You will not be allowed to petition for reinstatement until at least one (1) year from the date of this denial and until you have satisfied any conditions outlined in your order and any requirements required by law at the time of your application.

Due to this denial, you have the right to a public hearing before an Administrative Law Judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings. Should you decide to appeal the decision to deny you licensure, please submit a written request for a public hearing, to the attention of Office of General Counsel, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas, 78701. Your written request to appeal this decision must be received in our office within sixty (60) days of the date of this letter. Further, if this office receives information regarding additional criminal conduct or behavior that has not been previously disclosed to or discovered by this office, please be advised that evidence of such additional criminal conduct or behavior may be used against you during the public hearing in this matter to show that you lack the good professional character and other requirements for licensure.

Further, should the decision to deny your licensure be upheld by the State Office of Administrative Hearings, you will be entitled to judicial review by filing an action in the district court of Travis County, Texas. A petition for such an action must be filed not later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date the licensing authority's decision is final and appealable.

If you have any questions, please contact Enforcement at (512) 305-6838.

Sincerely,

Saltruin Anomas

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

**Executive Director** 

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