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Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN
Executive Director
Texas Board of Nursing

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of §
MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA, §
Registered Nurse License Number 989412 §
& Vocational Nurse License Number 324703 §
§

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA, Registered Nurse License Number 989412, and Vocational Nurse License Number 324703, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in delinquent status. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Career Point College, San Antonio, Texas, on December 6, 2014. Respondent received an Associate Degree from Galen College of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, on March 24, 2020. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on February 5, 2015. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 29, 2020.
4. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

5. On or about March 19, 2021, the Board provided notice to Respondent that an investigation was being initiated into alleged violations of the Nursing Practice Act and/or the Board's Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure, and Practice, as follows:
 - o On or about January 12, 2024, Respondent Pled Guilty to PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND ITEMS IN CORRECTIONAL OR CIVIL COMMITMENT FACILITY, a Felony offense committed on May 3, 2018, in the 227th Criminal District Court of Bexar County, under Cause Number 2021CR2360B. 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 three (3) years and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.
6. On January 12, 2024, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's statement, dated January 12, 2024, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

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.
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(3), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 989412, and Vocational Nurse License Number 324703, heretofore issued to MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. 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 ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 989412, and Vocational Nurse License Number 324703 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/himself 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 practice vocational nursing, use the title "vocational nurse" or the abbreviation "LVN" or wear any insignia identifying herself/himself as a vocational nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a vocational nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until at least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
4. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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

Effective this 12th day of January, 2024

Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN
Kristin K. Benton, DNP, RN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board

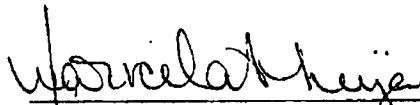
AFFIDAVIT OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA, who, after being by me duly sworn stated the following under oath:

"My name is MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA. My date of birth is June 3, 1980, and I reside at 1226 NW 36th Street, Unit A, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, 78228, and my cell phone number is 210-630-0965, and my email address is maricelaleija@yahoo.com. I am over the age of eighteen (18) years and I am competent to make this affidavit. The statements contained herein are true and correct.

"I hereby wish to voluntarily surrender my license as a Registered Nurse (989412) and my license as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (324703).

"I AM SIGNING THIS AFFIDAVIT VOLUNTARILY. I HAVE NOT BEEN COERCED OR THREATENED IN ANY WAY TO SIGN THIS AFFIDAVIT, NOR HAS ANY PROMISE OF ANY NATURE BEEN MADE IN EXCHANGE FOR MY EXECUTION OF THIS AFFIDAVIT."



MARICELA ALVAREZ LEIJA, Affiant

UNSWORN DECLARATION

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Civil Practice And Remedies Code, Chapter 132,
I declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing AFFIDAVIT and that the facts
stated therein are true and correct and within my knowledge and belief.

Executed in San Antonio, Texas, on the 12th day of January, 2024.



MARICELA ALVAREZ LEJA,
DECLARANT