IN THE MATTER OF	§	BEFORE THE ELIGIBILITY
	§	
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE	§	AND DISCIPLINARY
	§	
NUMBER 120020	§	COMMITTEE
	§	
ISSUED TO	§	OF THE TEXAS
	§	
ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER	§	BOARD OF NURSING

BOARD OF NURSING TEXAS
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.
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER
4901 VAGAS DR.
ROWLETT, TX 75088

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on September 13, 2011, the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee of the Texas Board of Nursing finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Certificate Number 120020, previously issued to ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 13th day of September, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY: Katherine A. Thomas

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charge filed May 11, 2011.

Re: Permanent Certificate Number 120020
Issued to ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 14th day of September, 2011, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served by placement in the U.S. Mail via certified mail, and addressed to the following person(s):

ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER
4901 VAGAS DR.
ROWLETT, TX 75088

BY: Katherine A. Thomas

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of Permanent License	§	**BEFORE THE TEXAS**
Number 120020, Issued to	§	
ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, Respondent	§	**BOARD OF NURSING**

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 120020, which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about March 11, 2010, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 10, 2009, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

> (3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics....

A copy of the March 10, 2009, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

CHARGE II.

On or about March 11, 2010, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 10, 2009, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Four (4) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

> (4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation....

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

CHARGE III.

On or about March 11, 2010, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 10, 2009, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Five (5) of the Order which states, in pertinent part:

> (5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills"....

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1) and (10), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars ($1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.state.tx.us.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order which is attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated March 10, 2009.

Filed this 11th day of May, 2011.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

R. Kyle Hensley

James W. Johnston, General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Renee Koslan Abel, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24036103
Lance Robert Brenton, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24066924
Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 50511847
Nikki Hopkins, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24052269
John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 00785533
TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460
Austin, Texas 78701
P: (512) 305-6824
F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Agreed Order dated March 10, 2009.

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse	§	AGREED
License Number 120020	§	
issued to ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, Vocational Nurse License Number 120020, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10) & (13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 12, 2008, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

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.

2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Frances Newton Hospital, Firozpur, India, on December 31, 1986. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on March 3, 1988.

5. Respondent's complete vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Home Health Staff Nurse with Optional Care, Inc. dba Care Options for Kids, Irving, Texas, and had been in this position for six (6) years and seven (7) months.

7. On or about December 1, 2006, while employed with Optional Care, Inc. dba Care Options for Kids, Irving, Texas, Respondent submitted fraudulent home health nursing notes regarding a six-year-old home health patient assigned to her care in that she documented she was at a patient's home from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., when she did not arrive at the patient's home until 10:30 a.m. Furthermore, Respondent falsely documented that she administered medications and took vital signs from 7:00 am - 10:00 am. Respondent's conduct was deceiving and created an inaccurate medical record on which subsequent caregivers would rely to provide on-going medical care.

8. On or about December 1, 2006, while employed with Optional Care, Inc. dba Care Options for Kids, Irving, Texas Respondent submitted a fraudulent timesheet reflecting she had conducted a home health visit for a six-year-old home health patient assigned to her care between the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., when in fact she had not. Respondent's conduct was deceiving to Optional Care, Inc. dba Care Options for Kids.

9. Respondent denies that she was trying to defraud Care Options and states that she had been working with this particular pediatric patient for six (6) years and was very close to the client. Respondent states that the incident began on Monday, November 27, 2006, when she was suppose to get off work at 6:00 p.m., but the night nurse who was to relieve her was two (2) hours late. The following day, a family member was supposed to relieve her at 5:00 p.m., but no one arrived until 6:15 p.m. Respondent states that she had already worked 3 hrs and 15 minutes overtime. On December 1, 2006, Respondent arrived late, a little after 10:00 a.m., and noted that the night nurse had charted the morning medications. Respondent states that she wasn't thinking clearly and used poor judgment that particular day by documenting in the patient's medical record that she had arrived earlier than she actually had. Respondent states that the time sheets were made out at the first of the week and signed and submitted at the end of the week.

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 of Section 301.452(b)(10) & (13), Texas Occupations Code, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(A).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 120020, heretofore issued to ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT 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 Respondent's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice vocational nursing in compact states.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of this Order.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred

dollars ($500.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine 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.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval 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) contact 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. RESPONDENT 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 RESPONDENT'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.*

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length of classroom time. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: 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. RESPONDENT SHALL cause the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Board's office to verify RESPONDENT'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.

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete 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 program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Information regarding this workshop may be found at the following web address: http://www.learningext.com/products/generalce/critical/ctabout.asp.*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future

employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(8) For the duration of the stipulation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or 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.

(9) 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 Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

Attn: Cynthia Smith
Supv Investigator
from Estelle Minter

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 violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, 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 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 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 to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 4th day of Feb, 2009.

Estelle Virginia Minter
ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of February, 2009.

Nancy Marie Kuhl
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

SEAL
NANCY MARIE KUHL
Notary Public
STATE OF TEXAS
My Comm. Exp. 08/26/2010

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the _4th_ day of February, 2009 by ESTELLE VIRGINIA MINTER, Vocational Nurse License Number 120020, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of March, 2009.

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