



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.
Patricia P. Roman
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 694133 §
issued to JENNIFER ERIN JONAS §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 694133, issued to JENNIFER ERIN JONAS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent holds a license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas which is in Inactive status.
2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing.
3. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, Texas, on December 1, 2002. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 26, 2003.
4. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

02/03 - 08/03	RN	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas
09/03 - 09/04	Unknown	

Respondent's professional nursing employment history (continued):

10/04 - 01/05	RN	Scott & White Urgent Care College Station, Texas
02/05 - 06/05	Unknown	
07/05 - 03/06	RN (PRN)	St. Joseph's Hospital College Station, Texas
04/06 - 06/07	RN	College Station Medical Center College Station, Texas

5. On or about June 6, 2007, while employed as a Registered Nurse with College Station Medical Center, College Station, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing, in that she had sluggish and slurred speech; she was unable to maintain her train of thought; she had exaggerated body mechanics; her eyes were very red; her pupils were not dilated, but appeared to be fixed; she talked constantly about things unrelated to her work; she laughed inappropriately; and she was observed to have an inability to complete patient procedures. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
6. On or about June 6, 2007, while employed as a Registered Nurse with College Station Medical Center, College Station, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Barbiturates and Opiates, in that she produced a specimen for a drug screen which resulted positive for Butalbital, Codeine and Morphine. Possession of Barbiturates and Opiates, without a valid prescription, is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Barbiturates and Opiates by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
7. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Five (5) and Six (6), Respondent states: I took prescribed medication early that morning for a migraine, not realizing it would impact me in that manner. I choose not to participate in the TPAPN, because I believe it is not appropriate for me and my family. I have decided to inactivate my license and no longer practice nursing.

8. On July 9, 2007, Respondent inactivated Registered Nurse License Number 694133 and returned the license, along with her License Renewal Form to the Board. A copy of Respondent's license, and License Renewal Form are attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
9. On August 28, 2007, the Board notified Respondent of the following allegations:
 - a. On or about December 2006 through March 2007, while employed as a Registered Nurse with College Station Medical Center/Triad, College Station, Texas, Respondent obtained Ultram/Tramadol and Vicodin from pharmacies in College Station, Texas, through the use of unauthorized, fraudulent, oral or telephonically communicated prescriptions, using the name and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) number of a physician.
 - b. Respondent was taken by Life Flight to Houston, Texas for liver failure; however, a liver transplant was halted due to the resolution of elevated liver enzymes possibly caused by excessive use/abuse of Ultram.
 - c. Respondent self-administered medications such as Synthroid to mimic a Hyper/Hypo Thyroid Diagnosis.
10. On September 18, 2007, Respondent submitted a notarized statement to the Board voluntarily surrendering the right to practice professional nursing in Texas. Respondent states: I never falsified prescriptions, nor did I self-medicate myself with Synthroid. I was diagnosed with Graves' disease almost four years ago and have been treated with Synthroid since that time. Since my thyroid was ablated, doctors have had many problems regulating my thyroid levels. In December, I was treated for a diagnosis of liver failure. I was treated in Houston, Texas, but I was never taken there by Life-Flight. I was discharged without the need to have a liver transplant, and I was told that my liver failure was being attributed to many things, including my thyroid, but not excessive use of any drug. A copy of Respondent's statement is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
11. 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.
12. 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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code; 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(T); and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12((1)(E),(5),(10)(A)&(D).
4. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
5. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
6. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.452 (b), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TAC §§213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

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ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 694133, heretofore issued to JENNIFER ERIN JONAS, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

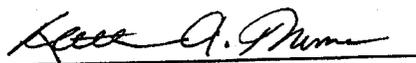
1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title of "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and, RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
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 multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in compact states.

Effective this 21st day of September, 2007.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



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

September 13, 2007

Earl E. Sterns, Senior Investigator
333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460
Austin, TX 78701

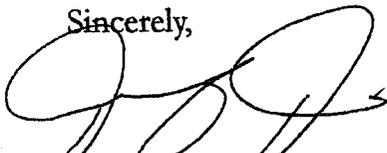
Dear Earl E. Sterns, Senior Investigator,

I am writing you in regards to the letter I received dated August 28, 2007. After speaking with you and my family, I have decided to voluntarily surrender my nursing license. My license is not included in this letter because I already submitted it when I requested my license be put into inactive status. I do understand that stipulations of voluntarily surrendering my license and took them into tremendous consideration when making my decision. I also understand that I can't reapply for licensure for a minimum of one year and I will have certain requirements to meet set by the Board of Nurse Examiners, if and when I ever decide to return to the practice of nursing.

I would like to state for the record that my decision doesn't in anyway reflect any guilt to the charges explained in the letter from August 28, 2007. The accusations are false and untrue and I would like to take this time to defend myself. I never falsified prescriptions nor did I self medicate myself with Synthroid. I was diagnosed with Graves Disease almost four years ago and have been being treated with Synthroid since that time. Since my thyroid was ablated doctors have had many problems regulating my thyroid levels. In December I was treated for a diagnosis of liver failure. I was treated in Houston, TX, but I was never taken by Life-Flight there. I was discharged without needing to have a liver transplant and told that the liver failure was being attributed to many different reasons including my thyroid, but not because of excessive use of any drug. I am upset that there are false accusations present to even come into play in the situation.

I did not intend to disrespect the Board of Nurse Examiners in any way. My nursing license means the world to me but practicing nursing is not where I belong at this point in my life.

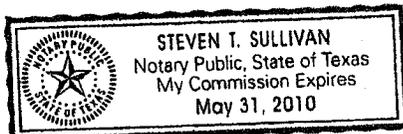
Sincerely,



Jennifer Jonas

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZOS

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE
ME THIS 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2007,
BY JENNIFER JONAS. SHE PRESENTED A VALID
TX. DRIVER LICENSE AS IDENTIFICATION.



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BRYAN, TX 77801
979-260-4046



STEVEN T. SULLIVAN
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF TEXAS