

IN THE MATTER OF  
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE  
NUMBER 626680 and 137022  
ISSUED TO  
KAREN M. RIGGLE

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BEFORE THE ELIGIBILITY  
AND DISCIPLINARY  
COMMITTEE  
OF THE TEXAS  
BOARD OF NURSING



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 A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Karen M. Riggle  
4594 Erie Street Northwest  
Canal Fulton, Ohio 44614

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, the Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case. This case was heard, and 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 professional and 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 § 213.2(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 626680 and 137022, previously issued to KAREN M. RIGGLE, to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Permanent Certificate Number 626680 and 137022, previously issued to KAREN M. RIGGLE, upon receipt of this Order, be immediately delivered to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multi-state privilege, if any, to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 8th day of June, 2010

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

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



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 07<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010, 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):

Karen M. Riggle  
4594 Erie Street Northwest  
Canal Fulton, Ohio 44614

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

**In the Matter of Registered Nurse License** § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**  
**Number 626680 and Vocational Nurse** §  
**License Number 137022, Issued to** §  
**KAREN M. RIGGLE, Respondent** § **BOARD OF NURSING**

### **FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, KAREN M. RIGGLE, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 626680, and Vocational Nurse holding license number 137022, which are both 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 January 16, 2009, Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Ohio was PERMANENTLY REVOKED by the Ohio Board of Nursing, Columbus, Ohio. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Ohio Board of Nursing Order, dated January 16, 2009, 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)(8), Texas Occupations Code.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to revocation of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to 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 § 301.461, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN. 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](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

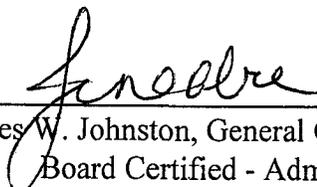
NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Guidelines for Criminal Conduct and on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder, Lying and Falsification, and Fraud, Theft & Deception which can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://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](http://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: Ohio Board of Nursing Order dated January 16, 2009.

Filed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

  
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

Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel  
State Bar No. 50511847

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: Ohio Board of Nursing Order dated January 16, 2009

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## Texas Board of Nursing

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

**Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN**  
*Executive Director*

May 6, 2010

Via CMRRR # 91 7108 2133 3938 1934 6623

Karen M. Riggle  
4594 Erie Street Northwest  
Canal Fulton, Ohio 44614

### NOTICE OF HEARING

RE: IN THE MATTER OF PERMANENT CERTIFICATE NUMBER 626680  
ISSUED TO: KAREN M. RIGGLE

Dear Ms. Riggle:

Your case is scheduled to be heard before the Texas Board of Nursing at a Committee Meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 8:30 a.m., at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas, 78701. At that time, pursuant to BON Rule 213.16, your failure to respond and/or appear regarding the allegation(s) of violation(s) of the Nurse Practice Act and to the Formal Charges filed pursuant to BON Rule 213.15, will result in the allegations against you that are set out in the Formal Charges being deemed as true. In addition, your opportunity for hearing on the formal charges shall be deemed to have been waived. The relief sought in this notice of hearing will be granted by default (TEX. GOVT. CODE § 2001.056).

Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code §301.453, relief such as revocation, suspension, suspension with probation, reprimand, warning, denial of licensure and/or imposition of administrative penalties (fines), may be imposed by the Board.

Staff has completed a Default Order recommending the sanction of revocation which will be presented to the Board for consideration at its next regularly scheduled business meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 8:30 a.m., at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas, 78701. **FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING IN PERSON OR BY LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AN APPEARANCE HAS BEEN ENTERED, WILL RESULT IN THE ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FORMAL CHARGES BEING ADMITTED AS TRUE AND THE PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION OF STAFF SHALL BE GRANTED BY DEFAULT.**

After the Board meets, you will receive formal notification of the decision. Please contact John De La Rosa, Investigator at (512) 305-6873 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

John De La Rosa  
Investigator, Enforcement Division

Enclosures: Formal Charges with Attachments

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#### Members of the Board

Linda Rounds, PhD, FNP, RN  
Galveston, *President*

Deborah Bell, CLU, ChFC Abilene	Kristin Benton, MSN, RN Austin	Patricia Clapp, BA Dallas	Tamara Cowen, MN, RN Harlingen	Sheri Crosby, JD, SPHR Dallas	Marilyn Davis, BSN, RN, MPA Sugar Land
Blanca Rosa Garcia, PhD, RN Corpus Christi	Richard Gibbs, LVN Mesquite	Kathy Leader-Horn, LVN Granbury	Josefina Lujan, PhD, RN El Paso	Beverley Jean Nutall, LVN Bryan	Mary Jane Salgado, MEd Eagle Pass



# Ohio Board of Nursing

www.nursing.ohio.gov

17 South High Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410 • (614) 466-3947

## BEFORE THE OHIO BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF:

ORDER: 1701  
CASE # 07-2728

KAREN MARIE RIGGLE, R.N.

### ORDER

By letter, dated September 22, 2008, notice was given to **KAREN MARIE RIGGLE, R.N.** that the Ohio Board of Nursing intended to consider disciplinary action regarding **MS. RIGGLE'S** license to practice nursing as a registered nurse in the State of Ohio, and that **MS. RIGGLE** was entitled to a hearing if such hearing was requested within thirty (30) days of the mailing of said notice.

In accordance with Section 119.07, Ohio Revised Code, said notice was sent via certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address of record of **MS. RIGGLE**.

**MS. RIGGLE** did not submit a hearing request within thirty (30) days from the mailing of the notice.

Upon consideration of the charges stated against **KAREN MARIE RIGGLE** in the September 22, 2008 Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and evidence supporting the charges, the Board finds that **MS. RIGGLE** has committed acts in violation of the Nurse Practice Act, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4723, as stated in the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, and the Ohio Board of Nursing **ORDERS** that **MS. RIGGLE'S** license to practice nursing as a registered nurse is hereby **PERMANENTLY REVOKED**.

The Board further Orders **KAREN MARIE RIGGLE** to surrender her registered nurse license #R.N. 275490 and frameable wall certificate immediately.

This ORDER shall become effective immediately upon the date of mailing indicated on the attached Certificate of Service and is hereby entered upon the Journal of the Board for the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
OHIO BOARD OF NURSING

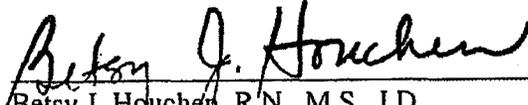
## TIME AND METHOD TO PERFECT AN APPEAL

Any party desiring to appeal shall file a Notice of Appeal with the Ohio Board of Nursing, 17 S. High St., Ste 400, Columbus OH 43215-7410, setting forth the order appealed from and the grounds of the party's appeal. A copy of such Notice of Appeal shall also be filed by the appellant with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Columbus, Ohio. Such notices of appeal shall be filed within fifteen (15) days after the mailing of the notice of the Ohio Board of Nursing's Order as provided in Section 119.12 of the Ohio Revised Code.

## CERTIFICATION

The State of Ohio  
County of Franklin

I, the undersigned Betsy J. Houchen, Executive Director for the Ohio Board of Nursing, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact reproduction of the original Order of the Ohio Board of Nursing entered on its journal, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy J. Houchen, R.N., M.S., J.D.  
Executive Director

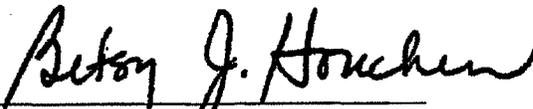
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(SEAL)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing Order concerning, **KAREN MARIE RIGGLE**, was sent via certified mail, return receipt requested, this 30 day of January, 2009 to **KAREN MARIE RIGGLE**, 135 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE #3, Massillon, Ohio, 44646.

I also certify that a copy of the same was sent via regular U.S. mail this 30 day of January, 2009 to David Krupnick, SAC, Sanctions & Exclusions, Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations, PO Box 81020, Chicago IL 60601-81020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy J. Houchen, R.N., M.S., J.D.  
Executive Director

tlb

cc: Leah Basobas O'Carroll  
Assistant Attorney General

Certified Mail Receipt No. 7008 2810 0000 5362 8859



# Ohio Board of Nursing

[www.nursing.ohio.gov](http://www.nursing.ohio.gov)

17 South High Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410 • (614) 466-3947

September 19, 2008

## NOTICE OF IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

Karen Marie Riggle, R.N.  
1210 Borden Street SW  
Massillon, Ohio 44647

And

Summit County Jail, Inmate #0000129068  
205 E. Crosier Street  
Akron, Ohio 44311

Dear Ms. Riggle:

In accordance with Section 2929.42 and/or 3719.12 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), the Ohio Board of Nursing (Board) has been notified that on or about June 18, 2007, in Summit County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 2006-06-2270, you pled guilty to and were convicted of Possession of Cocaine, a fifth-degree felony in violation of Section 2925.11(A), ORC, and were ordered to two (2) years community control sanctions.

Section 3719.121 (C), ORC, states in pertinent part as follows:

On receiving notification pursuant to Section 2929.42 or 3719.12 of the Revised Code, the board under which a person has been issued a license, certificate or evidence of registration immediately shall suspend the license, certificate, or registration of that person on a plea of guilty to a finding by a jury or court of the person's guilt of, or conviction of, a felony drug abuse offense, a finding by a court of the person's eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction, a plea of guilty to, or a finding by a jury or court of the person's guilt of, or the person's conviction of an offense in another jurisdiction that is essentially the same as a felony drug abuse offense, or finding by a court of the person's eligibility for treatment or intervention in lieu of conviction in another jurisdiction.

Section 2925.11(A), ORC, Possession of Cocaine, a fifth-degree felony constitutes a felony drug abuse offenses as defined in Section 2925.01 ORC.

**WHEREFORE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 3719.121(C), ORC, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE NURSING AS A REGISTERED NURSE IS HEREBY SUSPENDED.** Continued practice after receipt of this notice of suspension shall be considered engaging in the practice of nursing without a current, valid license, which is a violation of Section 4723.03(A), ORC. You are hereby ordered to surrender your Ohio license to practice nursing as a registered nurse R.N. #275490, to the Board within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice.

You are further notified that in accordance with Chapter 119, ORC, the Board proposes under authority of Section 4723.28, ORC, to deny, permanently revoke, revoke, suspend or place restrictions on your license to practice nursing as a registered nurse; reprimand or otherwise discipline you; or impose a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per violation for the following reasons:

1. On or about June 18, 2007, in Summit County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 2006-06-2270, you pled guilty to and were convicted of Possession of Cocaine, a fifth-degree felony in violation of Section 2925.11(A), ORC, and were ordered to two (2) years community control sanctions. On or about March 3, 2008, a *capias* was issued based upon your failure to comply with the terms and condition of community control.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee who has been convicted of, pled guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction for any felony. Section 4723.28(B)(5), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee who has been convicted of, pled guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction for violating any municipal, state, county or federal drug law.

2. On or about August 25, 2008, in Stark County Court of Common Pleas Case No. 2008 CR 1201, you pled guilty to two (2) counts of Forgery, both fifth-degree felonies in violation of Section 2913.31(A), ORC, and Receiving Stolen Property, a fifth-degree felony in violation of Section 2913.51(A), ORC, and Petty Theft, a first-degree misdemeanor in violation of Section 2913.02(A)(3), ORC.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee for conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude.

3. On or about July 17, 2007, in Massillon Municipal Court Case No. 2007 CRB 01286, you pled no contest to, and were found guilty of, Criminal Trespass, a fourth-degree misdemeanor in violation of Section 2911.21(A)(1), ORC.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee for conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of

no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude.

4. On or about January 23, 2006, in Barberton Municipal Court Case No. 06CRB00190A, you pled no contest to, and were found guilty of, Obstructing Official Business, a second-degree misdemeanor in violation of Section 2921.31, ORC. The acts underlying your criminal conviction involve you, on or about January 21, 2006, hampering or impeding a public official in the performance of his lawful duties.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee for conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude.

5. On or about January 23, 2006, in Barberton Municipal Court Case No. 06CRB00190B, you pled no contest to, and were found guilty of, Misrepresenting Identity, a third-degree misdemeanor in violation of Codified Ordinance #606.28, Barberton Codified Ordinances. The acts underlying your conviction involve you, on or about January 21, 2006, unlawfully and with purpose to avoid arrest misrepresenting your identify by orally communicating to a police officer false information concerning your name and date of birth, to wit: Janet L. Burwell, 8/7/58.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee for conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude.

6. On or about October 24, 2006, in Barberton Municipal Court Case No. 06CRB03406, you pled guilty to and were found guilty of, Criminal Trespass, a fourth-degree misdemeanor in violation of Section 2911.21(A)(1), ORC. The acts underlying your criminal conviction involve you without privilege and knowingly entering 130 5<sup>th</sup> St. SE, Barberton, Ohio.

Section 4723.28(B)(4), ORC, authorizes the Board to discipline a licensee for conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude.

Accordingly, the Board is authorized to impose one or more of the sanctions as cited in Section 4723.28, ORC.

In accordance with Chapter 119, ORC, you are hereby informed that you are entitled to a hearing on this matter. If you wish to request such hearing, the request must be made in writing and must be received in the Board office within thirty (30) days of the time of mailing this notice. As

Karen Marie Riggle, R.N.

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required by Section 3719.121(C), ORC, the suspension ordered herein shall remain in effect until this hearing is held.

You are hereby further informed that if you timely request a hearing, you are entitled to appear at such hearing in person, by your attorney, or by such other representative as is permitted to practice before the Board, or you may present your position, argument, or contentions in writing. At the hearing you may also present evidence and examine witnesses appearing for and against you.

Should you choose to request a hearing, please mail or deliver the request, in addition to any other correspondence regarding this matter to: **Lisa Ferguson-Ramos, Compliance Unit Manager, 17 South High Street, Suite 400, Columbus, OH 43215-7410.**

If the Board fails to receive a request for a hearing within thirty (30) days of the time of mailing of this notice, the Board may, in your absence and upon consideration of the factual and legal allegations set forth in the Notice of Immediate Suspension and Opportunity for Hearing, deny, permanently revoke, revoke, suspend or place restrictions on your license to practice nursing as a registered nurse; reprimand or otherwise discipline you; or impose a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per violation.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Broadnax, RN, MSN, CNS  
Supervising Board Member

Certified Mail Receipt No. 7008 1140 0002 1620 7700  
Second Certified Mail Receipt No. 7008 1140 0002 1620 7717

cc: Leah O'Carroll, Assistant Attorney General