

IN THE MATTER OF  
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE  
NUMBERS 47083 & 229666  
ISSUED TO  
PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON

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

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Pamela O. Jean Thornton  
7886 Chateau Road  
Maple Falls, WA 98266-7819

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on June 9, 2009, 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 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.



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.  
*Pamela O. Thornton*  
Executive Director of the Board

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 Numbers 47083 & 229666, previously issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, to practice vocational and professional nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same be and hereby, REVOKED.

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

Entered this 9th day of June, 2009.



TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on Behalf of the Board

Re: Permanent Certificate Numbers 47083 & 229666  
Issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON  
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 12th day of June, 20 09, 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):

Pamela O. Jean Thornton  
7886 Chateau Road  
Maple Falls, WA 98266-7819

BY:

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

**In the Matter of Vocational Nurse** §  
**License Number 47083 and Registered Nurse** §  
**License Number 229666, Issued to** § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**  
**PAMELA O JEAN THORNTON** §  
**aka PAMELA O. SCHLAEPPER, Respondent** § **BOARD OF NURSING**

### **FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, PAMELA O JEAN THORNTON, aka PAMELA O. SCHLAEPPER, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 47083, which is in delinquent status, and a Registered Nurse holding license number 229666, 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 7, 2008, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 6, 2007, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

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

A copy of the March 6, 2007, 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 7, 2008, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 6, 2007, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

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

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 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 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 6, 2007.



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

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston  
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: Agreed Order dated March 6, 2007.

0999/D

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 229666           §     AGREED  
and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083                   §  
issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON                           §     ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on March 29, 2006, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

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 conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in delinquent status.
4. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 21, 1970. Respondent received an Associate Degree in nursing from Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, on August 1, 1973. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 20, 1973.
5. Respondent's complete professional and vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, and had been in this position for two (2) years and five (5) months.
7. On or about June 30, 2004, while employed at Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent forged an authorization for release of patient information and faxed said form to Cook Children's Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, using the fax cover sheet of Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital. Respondent fraudulently requested x-ray, history and physical, and lab reports of her partner's son, T.E. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive Cook Children's Hospital.
8. Respondent admits that using hospital property was a mistake, but denies that her actions placed the patient in any danger. Respondent states that she was informed that her partner's son, T.E., was hospitalized in Oregon, and that attempts to collect information from the son's doctor in Dallas were unsuccessful. A sworn statement received from Teressa J. Luhaorg, mother of T.E., indicates that Respondent had permission and was authorized to retrieve medical records for T.E.

#### 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), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(22).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, heretofore issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, including revocation of Respondent's licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to

Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *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 professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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 State of Texas 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 PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. 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, and documentation of care. 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 on the Board's website, [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Board approved courses may be found on the Board's website, [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

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 professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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 violation 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

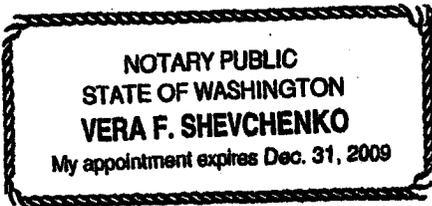
Signed this 27 day of Feb., 2007.

Pam Thornton  
PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007.

SEAL

Wendy Reed  
Notary Public in and for the State of Washington



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007, by PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, and said Order is final.

Effective this 6th day of March, 2007.

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

IN THE MATTER OF § BEFORE THE TEXAS  
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE §  
NUMBERS 47083 & 229666 §  
ISSUED TO §  
PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON § BOARD OF NURSING

**NUNC PRO TUNC ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Pamela O. Jean Thornton  
7886 Chateau Road  
Maple Falls, WA 98266-7819

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) finds that an Order of the Board was mistakenly ratified and entered for Pamela O. Jean Thornton. The Order, entered on June 9, 2009, by the Board, mistakenly contained an incorrect name instead of the Respondent's name on page 2 of the Order. Upon notice and hearing, administrative agencies, like the Courts, have the power to enter nunc pro tunc orders where it can be seen by reference to a record that what was intended to be entered, but was omitted by inadvertence or mistake, can be corrected upon satisfactory proof of its rendition provided that no intervening rights will be prejudiced. *Railroad Comm'n v. McClain*, 356 S.W.2d 330, 334 (Tex. App.--Austin 1962, no writ) (citing *Frankfort Ky. Nat. Gas Co. v. City of Frankfort*, 276 Ky. 199, 123 S.W.2d 270, 272).

The Executive Director, as agent of the Texas Board of Nursing, after review and due consideration of the record and the facts therein invalidates the Order of the Board that was mistakenly ratified and entered on June 9, 2009, by the Board, and submits and enters the corrected Order of the Board, which includes the corrected name of the Respondent on page 2 of the Order. The Respondent received due process regarding both licenses; therefore, her rights have not been prejudiced.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the corrected Order of the Board is hereby approved and entered on the dates set forth below.

Order effective June 9, 2009.

Entered this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2009.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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

IN THE MATTER OF	§	BEFORE THE ELIGIBILITY
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE	§	AND DISCIPLINARY
NUMBERS 47083 & 229666	§	COMMITTEE
ISSUED TO	§	OF THE TEXAS
PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON	§	BOARD OF NURSING

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Pamela O. Jean Thornton  
7886 Chateau Road  
Maple Falls, WA 98266-7819

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on June 9, 2009, 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 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.

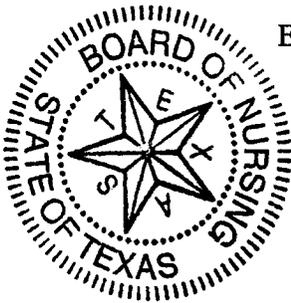
The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

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 Numbers 47083 & 229666, previously issued to DEBRA ANN ROBINSON, to practice vocational and professional nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same are hereby, REVOKED.

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



Entered this 9th day of June, 2009.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

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

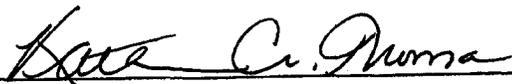
Re: Permanent Certificate Numbers 47083 & 229666  
Issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON  
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 12th day of June, 20 09, 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):

Pamela O. Jean Thornton  
7886 Chateau Road  
Maple Falls, WA 98266-7819

BY:

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

**In the Matter of Vocational Nurse** §  
**License Number 47083 and Registered Nurse** §  
**License Number 229666, Issued to** § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**  
**PAMELA O JEAN THORNTON** §  
**aka PAMELA O. SCHLAEPFER, Respondent** § **BOARD OF NURSING**

### **FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, PAMELA O JEAN THORNTON, aka PAMELA O. SCHLAEPFER, is a Vocational Nurse holding license number 47083, which is in delinquent status, and a Registered Nurse holding license number 229666, 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 7, 2008, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 6, 2007, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

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

A copy of the March 6, 2007, 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 7, 2008, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on March 6, 2007, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

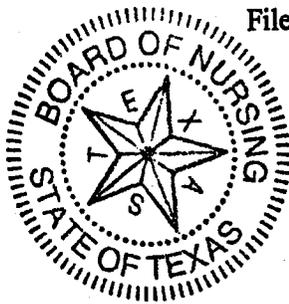
(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing ethics.

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 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 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 6, 2007.



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

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

Jane Abel  
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: Agreed Order dated March 6, 2007.

0999/D

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 229666           §     AGREED  
and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083                   §  
issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON                           §     ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on March 29, 2006, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

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 conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in delinquent status.
4. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 21, 1970. Respondent received an Associate Degree in nursing from Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, on August 1, 1973. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 20, 1973.
5. Respondent's complete professional and vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, and had been in this position for two (2) years and five (5) months.
7. On or about June 30, 2004, while employed at Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent forged an authorization for release of patient information and faxed said form to Cook Children's Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, using the fax cover sheet of Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital. Respondent fraudulently requested x-ray, history and physical, and lab reports of her partner's son, T.E. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive Cook Children's Hospital.
8. Respondent admits that using hospital property was a mistake, but denies that her actions placed the patient in any danger. Respondent states that she was informed that her partner's son, T.E., was hospitalized in Oregon, and that attempts to collect information from the son's doctor in Dallas were unsuccessful. A sworn statement received from Teressa J. Luhaorg, mother of T.E., indicates that Respondent had permission and was authorized to retrieve medical records for T.E.

#### 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), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(22).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, heretofore issued to PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, including revocation of Respondent's licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

#### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to

Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *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 professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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 State of Texas 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 PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence. 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, and documentation of care. 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 on the Board's website, [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. *Board approved courses may be found on the Board's website, [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) (under BNE events).*

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 professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

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 violation 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

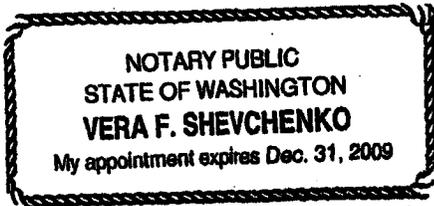
Signed this 27 day of Feb., 2007.

Pam Thornton  
PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007.

SEAL

Vera F. Shevchenko  
Notary Public in and for the State of Washington



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007, by PAMELA O. JEAN THORNTON, Registered Nurse License Number 229666 and Vocational Nurse License Number 47083, and said Order is final.

Effective this 6th day of March, 2007.

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