

5. Respondent's professional and vocational nursing employment history includes:

1992 - August 1993	LVN Good Shepherd Medical Center Longview, Texas
September 1993 - December 2002	RN Good Shepherd Medical Center Longview, Texas
January 2003 - June 2003	Charge RN Henderson Memorial Hospital Henderson, Texas
July 2003 - August 2003	Unknown
September 2003 - January 2007	RN Longview Regional Medical Center Longview, Texas
May 2006 - April 2007	RN/Case Manager At Home Healthcare Henderson, Texas

6. On or about April 1, 2007, while employed with At Home Healthcare, Henderson, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she attempted to commit suicide by ingesting more than twenty (20+) Xanax. Respondent then got into her car and had an accident. Respondent's conduct resulted in her admission to Behavioral Health Clinic, Longview, Texas for treatment due to her suicide attempt and history of depression. 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.
7. Respondent states that in 1998 she was diagnosed with depression by her Primary Care Physician and had been treated with medication for nine (9) years. On Sunday, April 1, 2007, while off-duty, Respondent felt that her level of depression had reached an all-time low and that her medication no longer controlled her symptoms. Respondent decided to take her own life by taking an overdose of her prescribed Xanax, which resulted in a car accident that involved another vehicle. No one sustained any injuries. Respondent was diagnosed and treated for bi-polar disease during a brief hospitalization. Following her hospitalization, she completed the prescribed out-patient therapy sessions, takes prescribed medications and is

followed by a physician from the out-patient facility.

8. On August 31, 2007, Respondent stated to the Board that she wanted to voluntarily surrender her licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
9. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her licenses to practice professional and vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
10. 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.
11. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to mental health issues.

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)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(E)&(5).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 597574 and Vocational Nurse License Number 78123, heretofore issued to PATRICIA ELAINE WITT, including revocation of Respondent's licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 597574 and Vocational Nurse License Number 78123, heretofore issued to PATRICIA ELAINE WITT, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Board of Nurse Examiners. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL immediately deliver the wallet-sized licenses, heretofore issued to PATRICIA ELAINE WITT, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional or vocational nursing, use the titles "registered nurse" or "vocational nurse" or the abbreviations "RN" or "LVN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse during the period in which the licenses are surrendered.
3. 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.
4. 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 privilege, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

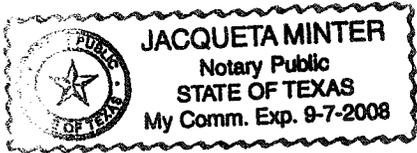
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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 13 day of 09, 2007.



Patricia Elaine Witt
PATRICIA ELAINE WITT, Respondent

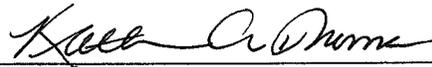
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of Sept, 2007.

SEAL

Jacqueta Minter
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 597574 and Vocational Nurse License Number 78123, previously issued to PATRICIA ELAINE WITT.

Effective this 18th day of September, 2007.



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