



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. Johnson
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of Registered Nurse § AGREED
License Number 680507 §
issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS § ORDER

On this day, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter refer to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 680507, issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c) of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived informal conference and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, informal conference, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from New Mexico State University, Alamogordo, New Mexico, on May 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 2, 2001.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

July 1994 to October 1997

Charge Nurse
Betty Dare Good Samaritan Center
Alamogordo, New Mexico

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

October 1997 to October 1998	Nursing Case Manager IHS Home Care Alamogordo, New Mexico
October 1998 to May 2001	Staff Nurse New Mexico School for the Visually Impaired Alamogordo, New Mexico
June 2001 to March 2003	Not employed in nursing
April 2003 to February 2004	Supervising RN Heritage House of San Angelo San Angelo, Texas
March 2004 to May 2004	Employment Unknown
June 2004 to October 2004	Charge Nurse Walnut Hills Convalescent Center Austin, Texas
November 2004 to Present	Charge Nurse Wesleyan Nursing Home Georgetown, Texas

6. On December 6, 2004, Respondent plead NO CONTEST to the charge of "Unlawful Possession of Marijuana," (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on September 12, 2003), in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law, Cause Number 03-03009. Respondent's finding of guilt was deferred and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of eighteen (18) months and assessed a fine in the amount of four hundred eighty-six dollars (\$486.00).
7. On December 6, 2004, Respondent plead NO CONTEST to the charge of, "Terroristic Threat," (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on February 1, 2004), in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law, Cause Number 04-01089. Respondent's finding of guilt was deferred and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of eighteen (18) months and assessed a fine in the amount of two hundred thirty-six dollars (\$236.00).
8. On or about September 15, 2005, Respondent submitted a Texas Online Renewal document for Registered Nurses to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas in which she provided false, deceptive and/or misleading information in that Respondent answered "no" to the following question:

“Have you ever been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory, or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including and pending criminal charges or unresolved arrest since the last renewal? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt.”

On December 6, 2004, Respondent plead NO CONTEST to the charge of “Unlawful Possession of Marijuana,” (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on September 12, 2003), in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law, Cause Number 03-03009.

On December 6, 2004, Respondent plead NO CONTEST to the charge of “Terroristic Threat,” (a Class B Misdemeanor offense committed on February 1, 2004), in the Tom Green County, Texas, Court at Law, Cause Number 04-01089.

9. On or about June 2005 through November 2005, while employed with Wesleyan Nursing Home, Georgetown, Texas, Respondent made derogatory, threatening, and vulgar comments to staff and residents. Respondent’s conduct may have caused delayed emotional distress for the residents and/or staff, which may not be recognized or felt by the residents and/or staff until harmful consequences occur.
10. On June 15, 2006, Respondent was arrested in Williamson County, Texas, for the offense of "Harassment" a Class B Misdemeanor, committed in Gaines County, Texas. Respondent’s case is currently scheduled for trial in June 2007.
11. On May 7, 2007, Respondent underwent a forensic evaluation performed by Matthew L. Ferrara, Ph.D., Clinical and Forensic Psychologist. Dr. Ferrara states, "Ms. Skaggs’ SASSI-III profile suggests that there is a high probability that she has a substance dependence disorder. Ms Skaggs stated that after her husband committed suicide, she was diagnosed with Posttraumatic Stress Syndrome and Depression. Ms. Skaggs stated that she thinks that her mother is an alcoholic. She stated, “Once an alcoholic, always an alcoholic. I am just like my mother. Based upon this evaluation, it appears that Ms. Skaggs would have some difficulty conforming her behavior to the Nursing Practice Act, Board rules and regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice. Therefore, it is recommended that Ms. Skaggs not be considered for licensure as a nurse."
12. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
13. 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.

14. 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 violation of Section 301.452(b)(2)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 217.12 (6)(C),(F),(H)&(I)&(13).
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 680507, heretofore issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS, including revocation of Respondent's professional license 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 680507, heretofore issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS, to practice professional 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 license, heretofore issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "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.
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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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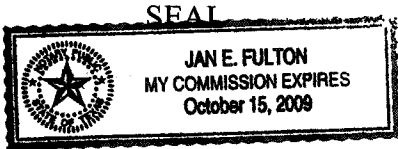
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I 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 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 29th day of June, 2007.

Debra Lynne Skaggs
DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of June, 2007.



Jan E. Fulton
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Robert L. Siebert
ROBERT L. SIEBERT, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 29th day of June, 2007.

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 680507, previously issued to DEBRA LYNNE SKAGGS.

Effective this 10th day of July, 2007.



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