



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.
Stephanie Rice
Executive Director of the Board

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS**

In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 577604
& Vocational Nurse License Number 112825
issued to DOE STEPHANIE RICE

§
§ AGREED
§ ORDER
§

An investigation by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that DOE STEPHANIE RICE, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, Registered Nurse License Number 577604 and Vocational Nurse License Number 112825, may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on November 15, 2005, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was represented by Courtney Newton, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Mary Beth Thomas, MSN, RN, Executive Director's Designee; E. Joy Sparks, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Jolene Zych, MS, RNC, WHNP, Advanced Practice Nursing Consultant; Virginia D. Ayars, BSN, RN, Investigator; Randi Cagan, Investigator; Tiana Clayton, Administrative Assistant; and Robert Cantu, Investigator.

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 notice and hearing, and consented 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 in delinquent status.

4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas, on August 16, 1985, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas, in December 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on December 4, 1985, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 17, 1992.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/1985 - 1992	Unknown	Unknown
1992 - 1993	Staff RN Pediatric Medical/Surgical Unit	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas
1993 - 1994	Assistant Director of Nursing	Retama Manor Corpus Christi, Texas
1994 - 1995	Director of Nursing Services	Westwood Manor Corpus Christi, Texas
1996 - 1997	Director of Nursing Services	Retama Manor Robstown, Texas
1996 - 1997	Director of Nursing Services	Aransas Pass Convalescent Center Aransas Pass, Texas
1997 - 1999	Director of Patient Care Acting Administrator	Comprehensive Hospice Mesquite, Texas
09/1999 - 11/2003	Administrator	Castle Peak Hospice Dallas, Texas
11/2003 - 03/2004	Regional Vice President of Operations	Trinity Hospice-Castle Peak, LP Dallas, Texas
04/2004 - Present	Not employed in nursing	

6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as Regional Vice President of Operations with Trinity Hospice-Castle Peak, LP, Dallas, Texas, and had been with this employer for ~~two~~ (2) months.

*three (3)
SR.*

7. On or about January 16, 2004, while employed as Regional Vice President of Operations with Trinity-Castle Peak Hospice, Dallas, Texas, Respondent acknowledged that Dr. Lewis had a pre-signed triplicate prescription pad in Respondent's office that had been used over the previous year to year and a half when Dr. Lewis was not able to provide immediate response to a pharmacy for the dispensing of Schedule II Controlled Substances, as prescribed. Respondent states that the pre-signed triplicates were not used to create new orders for patients but instead the triplicates were completed referencing pre-existing orders given by Dr. Lewis for patients on hospice service.
8. Formal Charges were filed November 6, 2006.
9. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent at her address of record on November 7, 2006.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)&(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 577604 and Vocational Nurse License Number 112825, heretofore issued to DOE STEPHANIE RICE, including revocation of Respondent's licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS, 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 privileges, if any, to practice nursing in compact states.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's licenses are 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 licenses issued to DOE STEPHANIE RICE, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date 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 and 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. 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, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding Sexual Misconduct, Fraud, Theft and Deception, Nurses with Chemical Dependency, and Lying and Falsification. 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 at the following Board website address: <http://www.bne.state.tx.us/about/stipscourses.html>.*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued unencumbered licenses and multistate licensure privileges, 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 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 is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and 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 nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

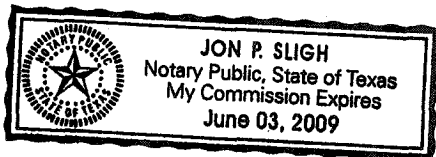
Signed this 4th day of June, 2007.

Doe Stephanie Rice
DOE STEPHANIE RICE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of June, 2007.

SEAL

Jon P. Sligh
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



Approved as to form and substance.

Courtney Newton
Courtney Newton, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 4th day of June, 2007

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 4th day of June, 2007, by DOE STEPHANIE RICE, Registered Nurse License Number 577604 and Vocational Nurse License Number 112825, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of July, 2007.



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