

IN THE MATTER OF  
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE  
NUMBER 692827  
ISSUED TO  
ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN

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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. Roman*  
Executive Director of the Board

**ORDER OF THE BOARD**

TO: Ellis Marie McLaughlin  
11020 Huebner Oaks #2137  
San Antonio, Texas 78230

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on November 12, 2008, 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 Number 692827, previously issued to ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Permanent Certificate Number 692827, previously issued to ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN, 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 nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2008.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING


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

Re: Permanent Certificate Number 692827  
Issued to ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN  
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 17 day of November, 2008 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):

Ellis Marie McLaughlin  
11020 Huebner Oaks #2137  
San Antonio, Texas 78230

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

**In the Matter of Permanent Registered Nurse** § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**  
**License Number 692827, Issued to** §  
**ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN, Respondent** § **BOARD OF NURSING**

### **FORMAL CHARGES**

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, ELLIS MARIE MCLAUGHLIN, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 692827, which is in current 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 June 2006, through November 27, 2006, while employed with Methodist Children's Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent admitted that she had misappropriated Morphine and Ativan in that she removed unused portions of these medications from the Sharps containers for her own personal use. Respondent's conduct defrauded the facility and the patients thereof of the cost of the medications.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(B),(6)(G), (8)&(11)(B).

#### **CHARGE II.**

On or about November 26, 2006, while employed with Methodist Children's Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Morphine in that she produced a specimen for drug screening which resulted positive for Morphine. Possession of Morphine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Morphine, by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(4),(5)&(10)(A)&(D)&(11)(B).

### CHARGE III.

On or about February 22, 2007, while employed with Methodist Children's Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Amphetamine and Methamphetamine in that she produced a specimen for drug screening which resulted positive for Amphetamine and Methamphetamine. Possession of Amphetamine and Methamphetamine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Amphetamine and Methamphetamine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(4),(5)&(10)(A)&(D)&(11)(B).

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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 GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on Adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies for Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Used Disorder which can be found at the Board's website, [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

Filed this 3rd day of September, 2009.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

  
James W. Johnston, General Counsel  
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Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
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