



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 TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § REINSTATEMENT
Registered Nurse License Number 623008 §
issued to DONALD W. STEVENS § AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Reinstatement of Registered Nurse License Number 623008, held by DONALD W. STEVENS, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

An informal conference was conducted on November 15, 2016, in accordance with Section 301.464, Texas Occupations Code. Petitioner appeared in person. Petitioner was represented by Deborah Goodall, Attorney at Law.

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 Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Petitioner received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas, in August 1995. Petitioner was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 1995.
4. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

8/95 - 9/03	GN/Staff Nurse	United Regional Healthcare Services Wichita Falls, Texas
10/03 - 2/04	Unknown	
3/04 - 9/04	Staff Nurse	Clay County Memorial Henrietta, Texas

Petitioner's nursing employment history continued:

9/04 - 10/04	Staff Nurse	Kell West Regional Wichita Falls, Texas
11/04 - 8/07	Unknown	

5. On June 14, 2005, Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing was Suspended, with the suspension stayed and Petitioner was placed on Probation for a period of three (3) years by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the June 14, 2005, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
6. On August 14, 2007, Petitioner's license to practice professional nursing was Revoked by the Texas Board of Nursing. A copy of the August 14, 2007, Order of the Board is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
7. On or about April 25, 2008, Petitioner pleaded guilty to "Possession of Controlled Substance" (a felony offense committed on July 30, 2006) in the District Court in and for Cotton County, Oklahoma, Cause No. CF-2006-00048. As a result of the pleading, Petitioner was sentenced to five (5) years deferred adjudication.
8. On or about February 19, 2009, Petitioner pleaded guilty to and was convicted of:
 - "Assault Causes Bodily Inj" (a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on April 21, 2005) in the County Court at Law No. 2, Wichita Falls, Texas, Cause No. CAU:31966-F;
 - "Driving While License Invalid" (a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on October 16, 2006) in the County Court at Law No. 2, Wichita Falls, Texas, Cause No. CAU-37896-F; and
 - "Failure to Stop and Give Info >= \$200 Damage" (a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on May 1, 2008) in the County Court at Law No. 2, Wichita Falls, Texas, Cause No. CAU-45141-F.
10. On or about April 2, 2009, Petitioner's five (5) years deferred adjudication was revoked in the District Court in and for Cotton County, Oklahoma, Cause No. CF-2006-00048, and petitioner was sentenced to five (5) years prison confinement with three (3) of those years suspended with state supervision. Petitioner was incarcerated in the Oklahoma Department of Corrections on April 3, 2009, and Petitioner was discharged to state supervision on January 8, 2010.
11. On or about July 13, 2016, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

12. Petitioner presented the following in support of said petition:

- 12.1. Letter, dated March 13, 2008, from Christopher Gibson, Program Director, Salvation Army, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, stating Petitioner is a resident of The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center. Petitioner was admitted to the 180 day in resident rehabilitation program on October 16, 2007. His estimated completion date was April 13, 2008. While in the program, Petitioner is required to perform forty (40) hours per week of work therapy, attend four (4) religious services per week, individual counseling, four (4) recovery meetings per week, Victim Impact Panel Presentations and anger management, and is subjected to daily breath tests for alcohol and random drug screens for alcohol and controlled substances. Petitioner has done very well. He makes more than required meetings and is involved in mentoring the new men in the center. He also leads a 12 step meeting.
- 12.2. Certificate of completion from The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center dated April 13, 2008.
- 12.3. Letter of support, dated February 29, 2016, from Kevin Dydyk, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, stating Petitioner is a kind, responsible and dedicated individual. He has a special facility to display calmness and patience, and has all the best qualities that a nurse requires. Petitioner is a very sensitive and understanding person who knows how to be supportive to his fellow man under any circumstances.
- 12.4. Letter of support, dated March 1, 2016, from Mike Bledsoe, QA Manager, National Oilwell Varco, Burkburnett, Texas, stating Petitioner worked for him for several years in the quality control/compliance department in Burkburnett. Petitioner showed that he is capable, respectful and focused. Petitioner was promoted within the company and continued to grow in his abilities and is a very reliable employee. Since Mr. Bledsoe has known Petitioner, he has not witnessed any sobriety issues. Mr. Bledsoe thinks highly of Petitioner and knows he is remorseful of his previous actions.
- 12.5. Letter of support, dated March 8, 2016, from Tom Harwell, LPC, Serenity Foundation of Texas, stating he has known Petitioner for several years and can attest the Petitioner has made significant gains while engaging in recovery systems. Mr. Harwell has seen Petitioner at NA and AA meetings for the last four (4) to five (5) years. Petitioner has activated exemplary personal behaviors in recovery, discovering a path of healing aligned with spiritual principles.
- 12.6. Letter of support, dated March 9, 2016, from Mike Ryckoff, stating he met Petitioner several years ago at an AA meeting. They also attend the same church. Petitioner has come to believe in a power greater than himself and it's working.

- 12.7. Letter of support, dated March 7, 2016, from Jackie Dilbeck, stating she has known Petitioner over the past year on a professional level. As a human resource representative at National Oilwell Varco, Ms. Dilbeck has found Petitioner to be a conscientious and trustworthy employee. He is very professional in all matters and respectful of the overall dynamics that make up the population of the facility. His skills set and knowledge far exceed his job duties and they have benefitted from his employment there.
- 12.8. Letter of support, dated February 23, 2016, from Matthew O'Hearn, Wichita Falls, Texas, stating he has known Petitioner since September 2015. They attended a church weekend renewal program together. Since that time, Mr. O'Hearn and Petitioner have been in contact on at least a weekly basis, and Mr. O'Hearn has had the opportunity to come to know Petitioner's past problems and who he has become today. Petitioner has never shied away from accepting full responsibility for his actions. Petitioner is someone Mr. O'Hearn would trust with the responsibilities of nursing. Petitioner knows what he needs to do to stay on course and he does it every day.
- 12.9. Documentation of thirty-nine (39) negative drug screens collected randomly from April 19, 2013, through October 18, 2016.
- 12.10. Documentation of support group meetings dating from September 2010, through March 2016.
- 12.11. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.
13. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the character factors set out in 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for good professional character and relicensure.
14. Relicensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
15. The Executive Director's review of Petitioner's eligibility for relicensure has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Pursuant to Section 301.467, Texas Occupations Code, the Board may refuse to issue or renew a license, and may set a reasonable period that must lapse before reapplication. Pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that a Petitioner must satisfy before reissuance of an unrestricted license.
3. The Board may license an individual with prior behaviors inconsistent with the Board's character requirements if, upon evaluation of the factors in 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.27, and pursuant to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §213.33, the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
4. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

TERMS OF ORDER

I. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of DONALD W. STEVENS for reinstatement of license to practice nursing in the state of Texas be **GRANTED** and Registered Nurse License Number 623008 is hereby **REINSTATED** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER agrees to obtain, read, and comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 *et seq.*, and this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

- B. PETITIONER may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state without first obtaining the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the nurse licensure compact party state where PETITIONER wishes to work.

III. REQUIREMENTS FOR REFRESHER COURSE, EXTENSIVE ORIENTATION, OR NURSING PROGRAM OF STUDY IN PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED NURSING

Prior to practicing as an registered nurse in the State of Texas, PETITIONER

SHALL:

- A. **Apply for a Six Month Temporary Permit to Complete Refresher Course, Extensive Orientation, or Nursing Program of Study in Professional Registered Nursing** for the limited purpose of completing a refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study in professional registered nursing. The application for the Six Month Temporary Permit is available on the Board's website (www.bon.texas.gov) under Forms / Applications / Six Month Permits. PETITIONER SHALL NOT, in any way, attempt to use the temporary permit for any purpose other than completing the refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study in professional registered nursing.
- B. **Successfully complete a Board approved refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study for professional registered nursing.** Petitioner **MUST** obtain Board approval of the nursing refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program, as applicable, prior to **enrollment**. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include registered nurses and the course's content shall, at a minimum, include: 1) Review of NPA, Rules, Position Statements; 2) Determination of Individual Scope of Practice and role in patient safety; 3) Review of the nursing process to include assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation; 4) Pharmacology review; 5) Medication administration; 6) Documentation, quality assurance, and legal implication for nursing practice; and, 7) Documentation of current CPR certification prior to beginning precepted clinical learning experience. The course must contain no less than a total of 80 hours of clinical practice providing direct patient care supervised by a qualified registered nurse instructor who meets or exceeds the Board's minimum criteria for eligibility as an instructor. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. **Upon completion of the refresher course, extensive orientation, or nursing program of study for professional registered nursing,** PETITIONER SHALL return the temporary permit to the Board's office and PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to notify the Board,

on a form provided by the Board, of Petitioner's successful completion of the refresher course, including the required 80 hours of supervised practice.

- D. Upon verification of successful completion of the conditions** as set out in Paragraphs A through C of this Section, PETITIONER SHALL submit a completed License Reactivation Form for Registered Nurses, which is available on the Board's website (www.bon.texas.gov) under Forms / Applications / Renewals / Reactivation Renewal. PETITIONER shall pay all re-registration fees and, subject to meeting all other requirements for licensure in Texas, shall be issued the applicable license to practice registered nursing in the State of Texas, which shall be subject to the terms of this Order.

IV. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, Petitioner SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) **within one (1) year of relicensure, unless otherwise specifically indicated:**

- A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics** that shall be a minimum of six (6) 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 Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- B. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"** a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), Petitioner SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. Petitioner SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

V. MONITORING FEE

PETITIONER SHALL **pay a monitoring fee in the amount of five hundred dollars**

(\$500.00) within forty-five (45) days of relicensure. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas

Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

VI. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, PETITIONER must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, providing direct patient care in a clinical healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for twelve (12) quarterly periods [three (3) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until twelve (12) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment with the same employer for all three (3) months will not count towards completion of this requirement. Periods of unemployment or of employment that do not require the use of a registered nurse (RN) or a vocational nurse (LVN) license, as appropriate, will not apply to this period and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- A. **Notifying Present and Future Employers:** PETITIONER SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- B. **Notification of Employment Forms:** PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. **Direct Supervision:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as PETITIONER and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. PETITIONER SHALL work only on

regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

- D. No Night or Rotating Shifts, Overtime, or On-Call:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which PETITIONER is regularly assigned.
- E. No Critical Care:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.
- F. No Administration of Controlled Medications:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, PETITIONER SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, Propofol, or other synthetic opiates.
- G. Indirect Supervision:** For the remainder of the probation period, PETITIONER SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as PETITIONER, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the PETITIONER is currently working. PETITIONER SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). PETITIONER SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. PETITIONER SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- H. Nursing Performance Evaluations:** PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the PETITIONER by the Board, periodic reports as to PETITIONER'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the nurse who supervises the PETITIONER and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for twelve (12) quarters [three (3) years] of employment as a nurse.

VII. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, tramadol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and PETITIONER SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, tramadol, and controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when PETITIONER obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
- For the first three (3) month [1st quarter] period PETITIONER works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
 - For the next three (3) month [2nd quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
 - For the next six (6) month period [3rd & 4th quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
 - For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board. Any test result for a period of time in which the PETITIONER is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. PETITIONER SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the PETITIONER'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require PETITIONER to produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which PETITIONER does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject PETITIONER to further disciplinary action, including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of PETITIONER's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

- C. **While under the terms of this Order, PETITIONER SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week,** one of which must be for substance abuse and provided by Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or another comparable recovery program that has been pre-approved by the Board. PETITIONER SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least: the date of each meeting; the name of each group attended; and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by PETITIONER. PETITIONER SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) month quarterly period. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

VIII. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and PETITIONER may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Reinstatement Agreed Order. I certify that my past behavior, except as disclosed in my Petition for Reinstatement of Licensure, has been in conformity with the Board's professional character rule. I have provided the Board with complete and accurate documentation of my past behavior in violation of the penal law of any jurisdiction which was disposed of through any procedure short of convictions, such as: conditional discharge, deferred adjudication or dismissal. I have no criminal prosecution pending in any jurisdiction.

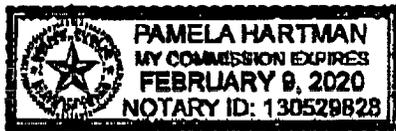
I have reviewed this Order. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license(s) to practice nursing in the state of Texas. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas will be revoked, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 29 day of November, 2016.

Donald W. Stevens
DONALD W. STEVENS, Petitioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of November, 2016

SEAL



Pamela Hartman
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.

Deborah Goodall
Deborah Goodall, Attorney for Petitioner

Signed this 29th day of November, 2016.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the 29th day of November, 2016, by DONALD W. STEVENS, Registered Nurse License Number 623008, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of January, 2017.



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

IN THE MATTER OF
PERMANENT CERTIFICATE
NUMBER 623008
ISSUED TO
DONALD W. STEVENS

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

BEFORE THE ELIGIBILITY
AND DISCIPLINARY
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD
OF NURSE EXAMINERS OF THE
STATE OF TEXAS



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.
[Signature]
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Donald W. Stevens
3139 Northeast Drive
Wichita Falls, Texas 76306

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on August 14, 2007, 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 file a written response to the Formal Charges as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE, §213.16.

The Committee of the Board of Nurse Examiners 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 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 of the violations alleged in the Formal Charges were given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to file an answer in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE, §213.16.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code, §2001.056 and 22 Texas Administrative Code, §213.16.

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 to set aside the default order (22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 213.16(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 623008, previously issued to DONALD W. STEVENS, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is 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 14th day of August, 2007.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

BY:



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

Re: Permanent Certificate Number 6230088
Issued to DONALD W. STEVENS
DEFAULT ORDER -REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 24th day of August, 2007, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served by placement in the U.S. Mail via first class mail, and addressed to the following person(s):

Donald W. Stevens
3139 Northeast Drive
Wichita Falls, Texas 76306

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

**In the Matter of Permanent License
Number 623008, Issued to
DONALD W. STEVENS, Respondent**

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

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, DONALD W. STEVENS, is a Registered Nurse holding license number 623008, 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 June 15, 2006, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to him on June 14, 2005, by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. Noncompliance is the result of his 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 jurisprudence....

A copy of the June 14, 2005, 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 June 15, 2006, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to him on June 14, 2005, by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. Noncompliance is the result of his failure to comply with Stipulation Number Four (4) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(4) 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).

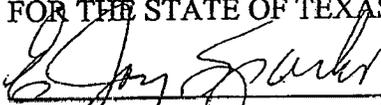
NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us.

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 Chemical Dependency which can be found at the Board's website, www.bne.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 June 14, 2005.

Filed this 10th day of April, 2007.

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS


James W. Johnston, General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300

Victoria Cox, Assistant General Counsel
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State Bar No. 18874600

BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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Attachments: Agreed Order dated June 14, 2005.

0999/D

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 623008 § AGREED
issued to DONALD W. STEVENS § ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DONALD W. STEVENS, License Number 623008, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(9) & (10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on May 10, 2005, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

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.
4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas, in August 1995. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 1995.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

08/95 - 09/03	GN/Staff Nurse	United Regional Healthcare Services Wichita Falls, Texas
10/03 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the initial incident Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with United Regional Healthcare Services, Wichita Falls, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately eight (8) years.
7. On or about August 4, 2003, while employed at United Regional Health Care Systems, Wichita Falls, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Cocaine in that he produced a specimen which tested positive for Cocaine. Possession of Cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Cocaine 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.
8. On or about October 29, 2003, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Cocaine in that he produced a specimen which tested positive for Cocaine. Possession of Cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Cocaine 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.
9. Respondent's last known date of sobriety is October 29, 2003 as indicated in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8).
10. 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.
11. Charges were filed on January 28, 2005.
12. Charges were mailed to Respondent on February 1, 2005.

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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(9) & (10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 623008, heretofore issued to DONALD W. STEVENS, including revocation of Respondent's professional license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that License Number 623008, previously issued to DONALD W. STEVENS, to practice professional nursing in Texas is hereby suspended for a period of three (3) years with the suspension stayed and Respondent is hereby placed on probation for three (3) years with the following agreed terms of probation:

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is encumbered by this order the 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.

(1) 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 Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.* and this Order.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to DONALD W. STEVENS, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within three weeks of the date of this Order for appropriate notation.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered 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 can be found on the Board's website www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).*

(4) 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 (under BNE events).*

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR THREE (3) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional Nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the probation conditions on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which

is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(7) For the first year of employment as a Registered Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional nurse to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and readily available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(8) For the duration of the probation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising RN shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a professional nurse on the night shift, rotate shifts, work overtime, accept on-call assignments, or be used for coverage on any unit other than the identified, predetermined unit(s) to which Respondent is regularly assigned for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

(10) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a professional nurse in any critical care area for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.

(11) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT administer or have any contact with controlled substances, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

(12) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT's capability to practice professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising Registered Nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for three (3) years of employment as a professional nurse.

(13) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to an evaluation by a Board approved physician specializing in Pain Management or Psychiatry. The performing evaluator will submit a written report to the Board's office, including results

of the evaluation, clinical indications for the prescriptions, and recommendations for on-going treatment within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(14) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the second three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the probation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT's place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the probation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action by this Board.

(15) RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a "professional counselor" possessing credentials approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the

therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT's progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice professional nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT's stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. Such reports are to be furnished each and every month for three (3) months. If therapy is recommended for beyond three (3) months, the reports shall then be required at the end of each three (3) month period for the duration of the probation period, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy.

(16) RESPONDENT SHALL attend at least two (2) support group meetings each week, one of which shall be for substance abuse; and RESPONDENT SHALL provide acceptable evidence of attendance. Acceptable evidence shall consist of a written record of at least; the date of each meeting, the name of each group attended, and the signature and printed name of the chairperson of each group attended by RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT SHALL submit the required evidence on the forms provided by the Board at the end of every three (3) months. No duplications, copies, third party signatures, or any other substitutions will be accepted as evidence.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that if during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license, the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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 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 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, my license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas will be revoked, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 10 day of May, 2005.

Donald W. Stevens
DONALD W. STEVENS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of May, 2005.

SEAL

Noemi Leal
Notary Public in and for the State of TX

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 10 day of May, 2005, by DONALD W. STEVENS License Number 623008, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14 day of June, 2005.



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