

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of License Number 561678    §     AGREED  
issued to CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR       §     ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR, License Number 561678, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on November 16, 2000, 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 an Associate Degree in Nursing from McLennan Community College, Waco, Texas, in 1990. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas in August 1990.

5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

August 1989-August 1991	LVN and RN/Emergency Room Providence Health Center Waco, Texas
August 1991-September 1992	Staff Nurse/Three months Neuro ICU, Emergency Room East Texas Medical Center Tyler, Texas
May 1992-September 1993	Patient Care Supervisor Girling Home Health Care Tyler, Texas
September 1993-November 1995	Staff Nurse/SICU UTHC-Tyler Tyler, Texas
May 1996-February 1997	Case Manager for rural hospice Hospice Of The Heart Whitney, Texas
December 1996-March 1998	Staff Nurse/Emergency Room and Intensive Care Unit Coryell Memorial Hospital Gatesville, Texas
March 1998-June 1999	Staff Nurse/Emergency Room John Peter Smith Hospital Fort Worth, Texas
June 1999-November 1999	Staff Nurse/Emergency Room Arlington Memorial Hospital Arlington, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a staff nurse in the emergency room with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, and had been in this position for three (3) months.

7. On or about September 2, 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to order laboratory tests on Medical Record #M716427 as the physician ordered. Respondent's actions unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of harm to a delay in treatment and to the risk of inappropriate treatment by subsequent personnel who would base their plan of treatment on incomplete information.

8. On or about September 2, 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to obtain a urine sample for lab work on Medical Record #M716427 as the physician ordered. Respondent's actions unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of harm to a delay in treatment and to the risk of inappropriate treatment by subsequent personnel who would base their plan of treatment on incomplete information.
9. On or about October 1, 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to initiate appropriate treatment for Medical Record #M754123 when he presented to the Emergency Room with sub-sternal chest pain, which had an acute onset. The patient was pale, diaphoretic, short of breath, overweight, and a smoker. Respondent triaged the patient for "basic" treatment and had the patient remain in the waiting room rather than immediately transport the patient to the treatment room. The patient was ultimately admitted to Telemetry with acute chest pain. Respondent's actions unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of harm due to a delay in treatment.
10. On or about October 19, 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to initiate protocol orders on Medical Record #M754279 when she presented to the Emergency Room with complaint of vaginal bleeding. Respondent's actions unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of harm due to a delay in treatment.
11. On or about October 19, 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent administered 20 milligrams (mg) of Bentyl IV rather than 20 mg of Bentyl IM on Medical Record #M373807 as the physician had ordered. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of adverse side effects from the medication, such as urine retention.
12. On or about October 1 1999, while employed with Arlington Memorial Hospital, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to document the administration of 20 mg of Bentyl IV to Medical Record #M373807 on the Medication Administration Record or anywhere in the nurse's notes. Respondent's conduct unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of inappropriate treatment by subsequent personnel who would not have the benefit of complete and accurate information.

#### 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)(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(2),(3)&(4).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 561678, heretofore issued to CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR, 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 RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a Warning 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 Professional 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 privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that 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-size license issued to CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR, 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 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 must include registered nurses. It must 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 is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The target audience must include registered nurses. The didactic portion of this course must be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course must contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be supervised by another registered nurse. To be approved, the course's content must include a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes, computation of drug dosages, the five (5) rights of medication administration, factors influencing the choice of route, and adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The description must indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor 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 is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in physical assessment. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The target audience must include registered nurses. The didactic portion of this course must be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course must contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component to be supervised by another registered nurse. To be approved, the course should cover all systems of the body. The course description must indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor 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 is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure.

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The course must be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience must include registered nurses. The course must contain content on the following: guidelines and processes for good reporting and recording; legal guidelines for recording; methods of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. RESPONDENT SHALL cause the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form,

provided by the Board, to the Board's office to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure.

**IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT CHOOSE TO 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, UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT:**

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a copy of this Order 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 stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a copy of this Order to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided 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 to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(8) 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. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined

unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, or home health agency. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided 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 to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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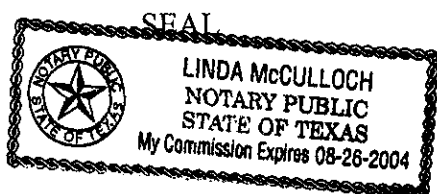
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I 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 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 license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 14 day of February, 2001.

Connie E Arthur, RN  
CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR, Respondent


Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of Feb, 2001.



Linda McCulloch  
Notary Public in and for the State of Hill

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 14th day of February, 2001, by CONNIE ELINDA ARTHUR, License Number 561678, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of March, 2001.

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



## Board of Nurse Examiners For the State of Texas

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Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, <i>Executive Director</i>	Linda Rounds, PhD, RN, <i>President</i> , <i>Galveston</i>	Thalia Munoz, MS, RN <i>Vice-President</i> , <i>Rio Grande City</i>	Deborah Bell, CLU, ChFC <i>Abilene</i>	Virgiola Campbell, BSN, RN, CNOR <i>Mesquite</i>	Lawrence Canfield, CRNA, MS, Ed <i>Temple</i>	Marcelo Lajna, Jr., <i>Floresville</i>	Sue McGee, MSN, RN <i>Amarillo</i>	Elizabeth Foster, PhD, RN <i>Arlington</i>	Phyllis Caves Rawley, CPC <i>El Paso</i>
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October 29, 2002

Connie Elinda Arthur, RN  
P O Box 1795  
Whitney TX 76692

Dear Ms. Arthur:

Our office has received all information necessary to clear your license. The Board's records now reflect your successful completion of the requirements of the Order of the Board issued to you March 13, 2001.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact this office at 512.305.6838.

Sincerely,

Diana Vandiver  
Monitoring