

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSE EXAMINERS	*	STATE OF TEXAS
	*	
VS.	*	
	*	
VALERIE ANN EDWARDS	*	COUNTY OF TRAVIS

AGREED BOARD ORDER

On this day came to be considered by the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners the matter of VALERIE ANN EDWARDS, an Applicant for Licensure by, examination hereinafter called Applicant.

By letter, the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners sent preliminary notice to Applicant of its intent to take disciplinary action with respect to said Application for Licensure, as a result of a subsequent investigation. Said investigation produced evidence indicating that Applicant has been convicted of a crime of the grade of a misdemeanor that relates to the practice of vocational nursing and/or, in violation of the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 302, Section 302.402 (a) (3) (B), in the following manner:

I.

- a. On or about November 1, 1999, Applicant submitted her Application for Licensure by Examination to the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. On said Application, Applicant answered "yes" to the question(s) asking: "Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor other than a minor traffic violation?"
- b. On or about June 22, 1989, Applicant was convicted of the Misdemeanor offense of: DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, in the County Court Number Two of Galveston County, Texas, under Cause Number 102868. As a result of said conviction; Applicant was placed on probation for a period of twelve (12) months.
- c. On or about July 21, 1993, Applicant was convicted of the Misdemeanor offense of: DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, in the County Court Number One of Galveston County, Texas, under Cause Number 131,651. As a result of said conviction; Applicant was placed on probation for a period of twenty-four (24) months.
- d. Applicant has been convicted of a crime, which the Board considers to be directly related to the duties and responsibilities of a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Said conviction is inconsistent with the basic duties and responsibilities inherent in the occupation of vocational nursing in that said occupation requires knowledge and familiarity of drugs, and compliance with drug laws.

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e. On or about July 6, 1989, Applicant was convicted of the Misdemeanor offense of: THEFT, in the County Criminal Court at Law Number Six of Harris County, Texas, under Cause Number 01020047. As a result of said conviction; Applicant was assessed a fine.

f. On or about June 22, 1998, Applicant was convicted of the Misdemeanor offense of: THEFT, in the County Criminal Court at Law Number Five of Harris County, Texas, under Cause Number 9816520. As a result of said conviction; Applicant was assessed a punishment was 10 days confinement in the Harris County Jail.

g. Applicant has been convicted of a crime, which the Board considers to be directly related to the duties and responsibilities of a License Vocational Nurse. Said conviction is inconsistent with the basic duties and responsibilities inherent in the occupation of vocational nursing in that said occupation requires the maintenance of accurate and complete records, and safeguarding property of the patient, client, and employer.

By Applicant's signature on this Order, Applicant neither admits nor denies the truth of the matters previously set out in this Order with respect to the above mentioned investigation. By Applicant's signature on this Order, Applicant acknowledges that they have read and understood this Order and have approved it for consideration by the Board.

By their notarized signature on this Order, Applicant does hereby waive the right to a formal Complaint, Notice of Hearing, and a Public Hearing held before an Administrative Law Judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings, and to judicial review of this disciplinary action. Notice of this disciplinary action will appear in the Board's newsletter sent to Texas employers.

ORDER OF THE BOARD

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, that VALERIE ANN EDWARDS is hereby allowed to take the examination for licensure, and upon obtaining a passing score, be issued a license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas. Said license shall be suspended, with said suspension stayed and placed on probation for a period of eighteen (18) months.

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The probation of said license is subject to the following stipulations, to wit:

1. That is Applicant's place of employment, name, address or telephone number changes, Applicant is to notify the Board office immediately, or no later than ten (10) days after said change has occurred. Said notification shall be in the form of a written letter or report.
2. That Applicant shall comply with Federal, State, and local laws, and all the provisions of the Texas Occupations Board and Rules and Regulations of the Board.
3. That by copy of this Board Order Applicant shall provide notice of Board disciplinary action to his/her immediate nursing supervisor(s) and Director(s) of Nursing, throughout the term of probation.
4. That Applicant shall be responsible for causing his/her immediate nursing supervisor(s) to submit satisfactory reports directly to the Board office on a monthly basis for the first six (6) months of probation. Thereafter, and throughout the remainder of said probation, Applicant shall be responsible for causing his/her immediate nursing supervisor(s) to submit satisfactory reports directly to the Board office on a quarterly basis.
5. That any period(s) of nursing unemployment must be documented in writing by Applicant and submitted to the Board office, as provided in Stipulation No. four (4).
6. That Applicant shall work only under the supervision of a licensed medical professional (M.D., R.N., L.V.N.) who is physically present on the work premises during Applicant's shift assignment(s), throughout the term of probation.
7. That Applicant shall not be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, home health agency, or as a private duty nurse, throughout the term of probation.
8. That Applicant shall and hereby agrees to remain free of alcohol and all unprescribed controlled substances. Any controlled or legend medication must be prescribed by a physician knowledgeable about the disease of addiction, as well as Applicant's history, and it is incumbent upon Applicant to insure such physician knowledge. In all such cases, the prescribed drugs must be verified in writing to the Board by the prescribing physician.
9. That Applicant shall submit to monthly blood alcohol drug screen(s) upon demand of the Board staff for the first three (3) months of probation. Thereafter, and throughout the remainder of said probation, Applicant shall submit to random periodic blood alcohol drug screen(s) upon demand of the Board staff throughout the term of probation. Applicant shall submit to a drug screening panel consisting of the following: Alcohol, Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cannabinoids, Cocaine, Hydrocodone, Meperidine, Opiates, Propoxyphene, PCP, Morphine, Codeine, Methadone, and Methaqualone. Said screen(s) shall be properly monitored with adherence to chain of custody procedures. A positive result shall be legally confirmed by Gas Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GCMS). The results of said screen(s) shall be borne by Respondent. The report of a positive drug screen shall be considered a violation of probation.

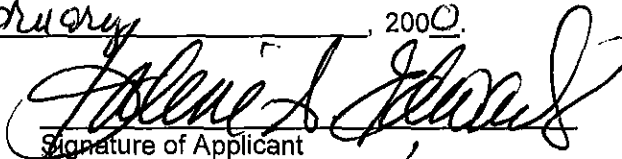
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10. That Applicant shall provide the Board a telephone number by which Applicant may be contacted between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. Applicant must maintain with the Board, during the term of this probation, a current telephone number in order for the Board to request random blood alcohol and urine drug screens, as provided in Stipulations No. nine (9). An inability to contact Respondent by telephone to request said required drug screens shall be considered a violation of probation.

11. That Applicant shall pay a Probation Monitoring fee in the amount of thirty (\$30.00) dollars in the form of a cashier's check or money order, payable to the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners. Said fee shall be paid quarterly, due on the 15th of each quarter, commencing the quarter following the date of the Board's endorsement of the Order, and continuing thereafter until the successful completion of Applicant's probation. Said fee shall be sent to the Board office, addressed to the "Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-400, Austin, TX 78701". Failure by Applicant to make any quarterly payment on time shall constitute a violation of probation.

This Agreed Order shall not be effective or take effect and become enforceable in accordance with its terms until ratified by a majority of the Board present and voting, at its next regularly called session.

Dated this the 17th day of February, 2000.


 Signature of Applicant

P.O. Box 1604 / 2512 Stonewall
 Current Address

LA MARQUE, TX 77568
 City, State and Zip

409, 771-3179 cell
 Area Code and Telephone Number

Hm - 281-692-0212

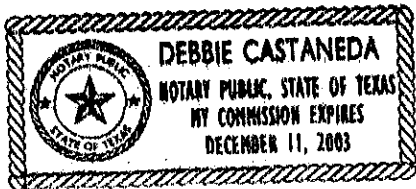
WK - 409-938-4143

The State of ~~Texas~~
 County of Marbleton

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared VALERIE ANN EDWARDS, who being duly sworn by me stated that he or she executed the above for the purpose therein contained, and that he or she understood same.

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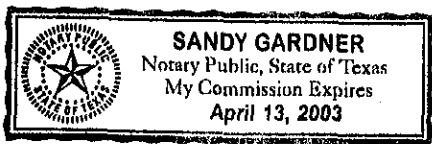
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this the 17th day of February, 2000.



Debbie Castaneda
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF TEXAS
My Commission Expires 12/11/03

Mary M. Strange
Mary M. Strange, RN
Agent for the Board of
Vocational Nurse Examiners

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 23rd day of February, 2000.

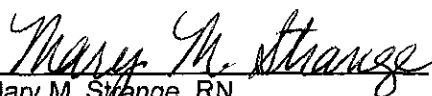


Sandy Gardner
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
THE STATE OF TEXAS

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 17th day of February, 2000 by VALERIE EDWARDS, EXAM Applicant and that Said Order is Final.

Effective this 6th day of March, 2000.



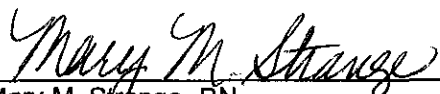
Mary M. Strange, RN
Executive Director
On Behalf of Said Board

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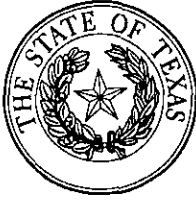
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 10th day of March, 2000, a true and correct copy of the foregoing **BOARD ORDER** was served by placement in the U.S. Mail, first class, and addressed to the following person(s):

VALERIE EDWARDS
PO BOX 1604
LAMARQUE TX 77568



Mary M. Strange, RN
Executive Director
Agent for the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners



00175940

BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSE EXAMINERS
333 GUADALUPE STREET, SUITE 3-400
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
512/305-8100

November 14, 2001

VALERIE EDWARDS
PO BOX 1604
LAMARQUE TX 77568

Dear Ms. Edwards:

You have successfully completed your term of probation as stipulated by the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners.

All pertinent information will remain in your permanent records. We urge you in the future to promote and uphold the ethical standards a Licensed Vocational Nurse should practice.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Hudson".

Carolyn Hudson
Probation Monitor, Enforcement Division

/ch