

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 588839 §       AGREED  
issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS                   §       ORDER

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 588839, issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c) of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived informal conference and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and 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 North Central Texas College, Gainesville, Texas, on December 18, 1992. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 23, 1993.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

March 1993 - November 2000

Unknown

December 2000 - July 2005

RN/CEO  
Oasis Medical Services  
Plainview, Texas

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

August 2005 - Present

Unknown

6. On or about January 2002 through July 2005, while employed with Oasis Medical Services, Plainview, Texas, Respondent caused "up-coded" and improperly coded claims and diagnosis codes to be submitted to Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance companies in order to receive higher payments than those authorized by the payors, in that she admitted to said conduct. As a result of Respondent's actions, health care payors, including Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program and commercial insurance companies, paid Oasis Medical Services monies for fraudulent billings in the amount of three hundred seventy thousand, six hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$370,657.00). On or about November 29, 2007, Respondent plead guilty to "Health Care Fraud," a Federal Felony, in U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Texas, Lubbock Division, Lubbock, Texas. Respondent is currently awaiting judgment and sentencing by the court.
7. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### 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)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§217.12(19), (20), (21) & (22)(effective to September 28, 2004), and 217.12(6)(A)(G)(H), (10)(E) & (11)(B)(effective on September 28, 2004).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 588839, heretofore issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 588839, heretofore issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL immediately deliver the wallet-sized license, heretofore issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing.
2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
3. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and, RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
4. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate privilege, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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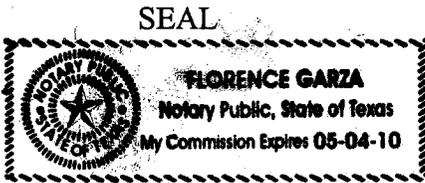
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2008.

Angela Michelle Edwards  
ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4 day of January, 2008.



Florence Garza  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

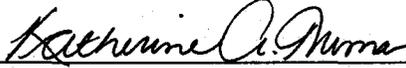
Approved as to form and substance.

Kirk F. Lechtenberger  
KIRK F. LECHTENBERGER, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 4 day of Jan., 2008

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 588839, previously issued to ANGELA MICHELLE EDWARDS.

Effective this 24th day of January, 2008.

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