

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse	§	AGREED
License Number 193478	§	
issued to MELISSA DAWN TATUM	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MELISSA DAWN TATUM, Vocational Nurse License Number 193478, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(2),(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on September 1, 2008, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director.

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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Nursing from Concord Career Institute on April 3, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 25, 2004.
5. Respondent's complete vocational nursing employment history is unknown.
6. On or about May 25, 2004, Respondent submitted an Application By Examination to the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "No" to the following question:

"Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor other than a minor traffic violation? (if yes, attach certified copies of the complaint/indictment, judgement of conviction, sentence/probation and your explanation of the circumstances.)

7. On or about January 25, 2007, Respondent was requested to comply with a random criminal background audit check. The results revealed the following non disclosed criminal history.
8. On or about April 22, 1994, Respondent was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Theft of Property  $\geq$ \$20  $<$ \$500 by Check, in the County Court #3 Fort Worth, Texas. Respondent received Deferred Adjudication on Cause Number 0533331. Charged was dismissed June 9, 1994.
9. On or about October 19, 1999, Respondent was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Theft of Property  $\geq$ \$20  $<$ \$500 by Check, in the County Court at Law Weatherford, Texas. Respondent received Deferred Adjudication on Cause Number CCL99-1916, four (4) months of probation, seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fine, and paid two hundred forty-four dollars (\$244.00) court cost.
10. On or about November 13, 1999, Respondent was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of Theft of Property  $\geq$ \$20  $<$ \$500 by Check, in the County Criminal Court #2 Fort Worth, Texas. Respondent received Deferred Adjudication on Cause Number 0738928000, eight (8) months of probation and paid one hundred eighty dollar (\$180.00) court cost. Charge was dismissed September 6, 2000.

#### 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)(2),(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(6)(I)&(13).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 193478, heretofore issued to MELISSA DAWN TATUM, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH A FINE, and RESPONDENT SHALL 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.

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

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is encumbered by this Order, 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-sized license issued to MELISSA DAWN TATUM to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days of the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. 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.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and 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. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include 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, 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. 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 may be found at the following Board website address: <http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.*

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 vocational 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

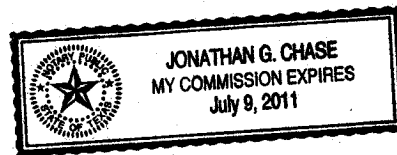
Signed this 27 day of Oct, 2008.

Melissa Dawn Tatum  
MELISSA DAWN TATUM, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27 day of October, 2008.

SEAL

[Signature]  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27 day of October, 2008, by MELISSA DAWN TATUM, Vocational Nurse License Number 193478, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11 day of November, 2008.



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