



## Texas Nurse Licensing System Launched on June 15, 2020

On June 15, 2020, the Texas Board of Nursing launched a new licensing portal, the Texas Nurse Portal. The Texas Nurse Portal is a confidential and secure cloud-based system that allows applicants to apply for licensure by examination, by endorsement or renew a Texas nursing license. The user will experience many benefits from the new system which is designed to be 100% paperless. The nurse license portal, developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), is completely online. All applicants and licensees will apply for an initial license or renew a license 60 days prior to the expiration date. The system requires individuals to register and create an account with the Texas Board of Nursing through the Texas Nurse Portal. Every applicant and licensee is required to have an email account to create a file. Once the file is created, the applicant and licensee will manage the transmission of any required documents and information via the portal.

The Texas Board of Nursing will continue to notify licensees by postcard of their renewal requirements 60 days prior to their license expiring, but it is highly recommended that all licensees register with the NCSBN e-Notify system at <https://www.nursys.com/EN/ENDefault.aspx>.

For more information, please go to [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov) and click on Texas Board of Nursing License Portal.

### Free COVID-19 Courses Offered by NCSBN

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing is offering free COVID-19 courses for health care professionals through its International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (ICRS) program. Three of the four courses offer continuing education credit. The courses offered are: "COVID-19: Epidemiology, Modes of Transmission, and Protecting Yourself with PPE," "COVID-19: Nursing Care," "COVID-19: Basic Law and Ethics for Nurses during COVID-19," and "COVID-19: Credible Information, Hoaxes, and the Media." Nurses and other health care workers are invited to self-enroll through the ICRS Connections Catalog at <https://catalog.icrnsn.org>. Enrollment questions should be directed to [icrs@ncsbn.org](mailto:icrs@ncsbn.org).

Would you like to be notified by email if your license will be expiring and not rely on a postcard? Do you employ nurses? Would you like to be notified of any updates to their files? Here is your opportunity. Over 23,000 Texas nurses have self-enrolled, and 1,400 employers have enrolled 212,000 Texas nurses in this free service hosted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. All you need to do is go to the Texas Board of Nursing website at [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov) and click on the Nursys E-Notify logo. Simple, free, easy, and automatic!

### Inside this issue

- 1 Texas Nurse Licensing System Launched on June 15, 2020  
Free COVID-19 Courses Offered by NCSBN
- 2 An Innovative "Grow Your Own Nurses" Partnership Between Five Rural Hospitals and Two Community Colleges in the Texas Panhandle  
Imposter Warning
- 3 Summary of Actions  
What is TPAPN?
- 4-5 Nursing Practice and COVID-19 Considerations
- 5 Ethical Responsibility in Nursing
- 6 Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review (SHNPR) Forms Updated
- 7 Free Course on Human Trafficking Prevention Offered by Texas Health and Human Services Commission  
Funding Opportunity: Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)-Ready Facilities Program
- 8-10 IV Hydration: What Texas Nurses Need to Know
- 11-13 Notice of Disciplinary Action
- 14-15 Texas Board of Nursing Learning Opportunities: 2020
- 15 BON Meeting Schedule

## An Innovative “Grow Your Own Nurses” Partnership Between Five Rural Hospitals and Two Community Colleges in the Texas Panhandle

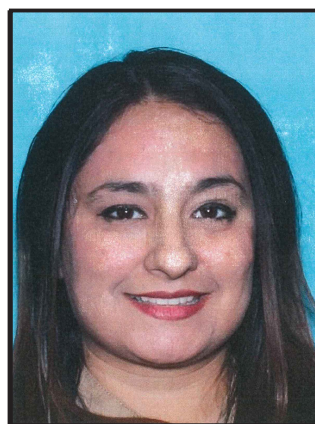
Dr. Shannon Carroll, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Frank Phillips College (FPC) in Borger, Texas, announced that “FPC and Amarillo College (AC) have joined rural hospitals in Borger, Dalhart, Dumas, Herford, and Perryton to form the **Rural Nursing Education Consortium (RNEC)**, a partnership designed to help rural communities fill a great need for qualified nurses at hospitals, clinics, and doctors' offices across the Panhandle of Texas.” FPC offers a Board approved vocational nursing (VN) education program, and has graduated between 13 and 20 students each year for the past three years with a 100% NCLEX pass rate. AC offers an associate degree nursing (ADN) education program that has graduated well over 100 students each year with a pass rate in the high 90% range. Appropriate approvals to proceed with the partnership plan are in process. The goal is to provide a plan for students in the panhandle of Texas to enroll in a streamlined VN curriculum that will be accessible to the five communities. Following completion of the VN program, the students may articulate into the AC ADN Program. Classes from AC will be provided through electronic transmission to the five sites but with a home faculty member present at each site. The VN certificate will be awarded by FPC and the ADN degree awarded by AC. All partners will assist in assuring adequate clinical experiences in hands-on patient care.

## IMPOSTER WARNING

If you have any knowledge or information regarding the employment practices of the following individual or any nurse imposter, please contact the Board's Enforcement Division immediately at (512) 305-6838.

### LILIANA BARRERA AMADOR

**a.k.a. Liliana Amador; a.k.a. Liliana B. Amador;  
a.k.a. Lily Amador; a.k.a. Lily B. Amador**



Between March 30, 2016, and December 16, 2019, Liliana Barrera Amador secured employment and practiced as both a licensed vocational nurse (LVN) and registered nurse (RN) with multiple hospice and staffing agencies in Houston, Texas, by using license information belonging to a licensee with the same first and last name. During this time, Liliana Barrera Amador represented herself as a “LVN” and “RN” to staff, patients, physicians, and the general public while using the credentials of “LVN” and “RN” on medical and business records. The Board's investigation revealed that date of birth, social security number, state issued driver's license number, and address information provided by Liliana Barrera Amador to her multiple employers did not belong to any nurse having a license or privilege to practice nursing in the State of Texas. This case has been referred to the Office of the Harris County District Attorney for prosecution.



### The Texas Board of Nursing

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# Summary of Actions



A regular meeting of the Board of Nursing was held January 23-24, 2020, in Austin. The following is a summary of Board actions taken during this meeting.

## In the May 15, 2020, edition of the *Texas Register*:

The Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) published as adopted various rule changes proposed in the March 20, 2020, issue of the *Texas Register* (45 TexReg 1938).

Amendments were adopted to §217.2, relating to *Licensure by Examination for Graduates of Nursing Education Programs Within the United States, its Territories, or Possessions* without changes to the proposed text. The new amendments clarify that applicants submitting fingerprints for a complete criminal background check in compliance with the *Occupations Code* §301.2511 will no longer utilize a fingerprint card to do so; instead, they will submit their fingerprints directly to the Board's third party vendor.

Adopted amendments to §217.3, relating to *Temporary Authorization to Practice/Temporary Permit*, require new graduates seeking temporary authorization to practice as a graduate nurse or graduate vocational nurse to submit fingerprints for a complete criminal background check prior to licensure, in compliance with the *Occupations Code* §301.2511, and pass the jurisprudence exam, in compliance with the *Occupations Code* §301.252, prior to receiving a graduate nurse or graduate vocational nurse permit. The amendments also clarify that a temporary permit may be re-issued if a nurse is unable

to complete requirements that are necessary for the nurse's licensure reinstatement within a six-month period.

Amendments to 22 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §217.6, relating to *Failure to Renew License*, address the licensure renewal of a nurse who is not currently practicing nursing and who has failed to maintain current licensure from any licensing authority for four or more years. Adopted amendments eliminate redundant requirements relating to refresher courses, extensive orientations, and programs of study from the rule.

The BON repealed 22 TAC §217.8, relating to *Duplicate or Substitute Credentials*. The Board's processes have changed over time, and §217.8 is now obsolete. Because an individual may now verify his/her license and print a wall certificate directly from the BON website, the Board has stopped printing duplicate wall certificates for licensees whose original wall certificate was lost or destroyed.

The Board adopted amendments to 22 TAC §217.9, relating to *Inactive and Retired Status*, without changes to the proposed text. Adopted amendments, like those to amended §217.6, eliminate redundant requirements relating to refresher courses, extensive orientations, and programs of study from the rule for nurse who have not practiced nursing and whose license has been in inactive status for four or more years.

The BON also adopted amendments to §222.3, relating to *Renewal of Prescriptive Authority* without changes to the proposed text published in the March 20, 2020, issue of the *Texas Register* (45 TexReg 1951). The adopted amendments are necessary for consistency with adopted changes to §216.3, pertaining to *Continuing Competency*. Section 216.3 was amended on November 19, 2019, in order to implement the requirements of House Bills (HB) 2454, HB 2059, HB 3285, and HB 2174 enacted by the 86th Texas Legislature.

Amended §217.2, §217.3, §217.6, §222.3, and the repeal of §217.8 became effective May 24, 2020.

On June 8, 2020, an emergency meeting of the BON was held. On March 23, 2020, the Office of the Governor granted a waiver of the Texas Board of Nursing Rule 217.24(e)(1) that limits the Advanced Practice Registered Nurses' ability to issue prescriptions for controlled substances for chronic pain via telemedicine. The initial waiver, and subsequent extension of the waiver from this prohibition for refilling controlled substances for chronic pain patients evaluated via telemedicine was in effect until June 6, 2020. The Board voted on June 8th to extend the waiver for an additional 30 days.

## What is TPAPN?

The Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) is a program for Texas nurses who have an identified substance use and/or mental health condition or related incident. There are several pathways a nurse might take to participate in the TPAPN program: self-referral, third party referral (such as from an employer), or there may be a Board Order (discipline) requiring the nurse to participate in TPAPN.

When there is not a Board Order requiring participation, TPAPN is an alternative to discipline.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing describes alternative to discipline programs as a mechanism to protect the public and provide the nurse a non-disciplinary pathway to safe nursing practice.

Volunteer nurses have an opportunity to help nurses who are participating in the TPAPN program by becoming a peer support partner. Prior to becoming a volunteer peer support partner, attendance at a peer support partner workshop, presented by TPAPN, is required as well as completion of the appli-

cation and approval by TPAPN. To learn more about TPAPN or becoming a peer support partner, please visit the TPAPN website.

### Resources:

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Alternative to Discipline Programs for Substance Use Disorder: <https://www.ncsbn.org/alternative-to-discipline.htm>

Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses: <https://www.texasnurses.org/page/TPAPN>

# Effects of COVID-19 on Nursing Education in Texas

Board Staff surveyed all pre-licensure nursing programs in Texas during May 2020 about the impact of the coronavirus on nursing education. Sixty-four programs responded with about 40% of each type of program (VN, ADN, and BSN) submitting information. Respondents represented rural (31.25%), urban (32.81%), suburban (26.56%), and border (9.38%) communities.

Approximately 94% of responding schools provided additional instructional assistance to faculty as they transitioned to total remote teaching; 81% resorted to increasing virtual simulations to replace clinical practice; and 89% reported frequent communications with faculty through online meetings.

Other helpful measures included:

- COVID web links on the school's web site
- Town Hall meetings with students via online platforms
- Security products for online testing
- Virtual team meetings for faculty
- Case studies for students followed by post-conferences
- Increased one-on-one faculty-to-student interactions

About 16% of respondents indicated they were able to continue hands-on practice in clinical settings, and about 17% indicated they were allowed on campus for simulation or skills labs. The projected time for students to return to campus or to the clinical settings is tenuous with estimates ranging from June 1 into the fall semester. Another concern for the future is the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) for students.

Seventy-one percent of respondents used the Governor's waiver to increase simulation to over 50% of clinical experiences for senior level students.

It was reported that faculty members learned how to coach and evaluate student skills through online technologies. Students also recorded themselves carrying out skills for faculty review and feedback. More role-playing and communication/assessment activities were included in synchronous online learning activities. One director commented, "I never realized that my faculty members are such outstanding actors and actresses."

Faculty quickly realized that instruction was more effective when:

- Teachable moments became learning moments.
- Face-to-face time was increased using online meetings.
- Study sessions were scheduled online, some student-led, some faculty-led.
- Students were responsible for presenting topics during online sessions.
- Class time was 100% active learning.
- Lectures were short and more videos were included.
- Live lectures included Q&A sessions.
- Students conducted online assessment interviews of clients.
- YouTube videos were created by faculty as teaching tools.
- Unfolding case studies

were used in the virtual environment.

- Additional faculty were added because of the need for one-on-one time.
- The goal for some online meetings with students was to have some fun (no course objectives).

Challenges met in a totally remote learning environment included the following:

- Some students did not have access to computers and technology and laptops had to be made available to them.
- Students had personal issues such as children at home, loss of job, anxiety, and feeling cheated because they did not have opportunities to provide patient care.
- Some faculty were not ready for the online teaching/learning environments.
- Faculty needed to provide online office hours for students.
- Faculty needed opportunities to be involved with students to ensure their success.
- Planning by faculty was essential, as well as having a backup plan.
- Maintaining test security and monitoring exams was difficult in an online environment.
- Faculty needed ongoing development in technology and accessible IT support to successfully use online teaching.

continued on next page

# Ethical Responsibility in Nursing

Being a licensed nurse is a public trust that comes with responsibilities. This trust, that the public has in nurses, is derived from our character and our competence. As nurses, our individual values and commitments with respect to our patients, team members, and other persons, play a central role in how we approach our nursing practice. Nurses strive to do what is best for others and do no harm.

Our obligations to the public are to have moral courage and to advocate in the best interest of patients. Therefore, as nurses, we should strive to be role models for society both in and outside of our practice settings. Nursing ethical principles go beyond the individual nurse and encompass all nurses in any role or practice setting, as we are all a part of an interconnected profession across the world.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) issued the following statement, which the Texas Board of Nursing supports and will aim to uphold in its protection of the people of Texas.

## National Council of State Boards of Nursing: Statement on Diversity and Equality in America

***NCSBN shares in the pain and trauma that the nation is experiencing as we confront the inequitable treatment of black and other minority Americans. NCSBN joins the nation in calling for a critical examination of how issues of racism, social injustice, intolerance,***

***and inequality are addressed and resolved. As a leading nursing organization, NCSBN seeks to empower and support nursing regulatory bodies in their mandate to protect the public. Nursing regulators are dedicated to licensing a diverse, competent nurse workforce to ensure that ALL individuals have access to quality health care. Nurses have earned the reputation as the most trusted profession who embrace a code of conduct that requires us to care for individuals based on their needs, not based on the color of their skin, or any other characteristic or categorization. We are committed to finding enduring solutions that make the nation and the world fair, just, and safe for all. At this pivotal moment, as an organization committed to public safety, we recognize how vital it is to listen and respond to those calling for an end to systemic racism and not allow those who seek destruction and violence to overshadow the importance of purposely moving toward a new era of diversity, inclusiveness, and change. This cannot be done in isolation. NCSBN stands ready to work with nursing colleagues and the rest of the health care community to effect long-lasting change. To this end, we will begin by critically examining regulatory processes for bias and develop additional learning resources to support equitable treatment for all.***

## Licensure and Ethical Responsibility in Texas

As nurses we are faced with decisions every day that require us to apply eth-


ical principles. It is important for nurses to understand and consider both their ethical and licensure responsibilities in order to unite as the most trusted profession in the nation and to put an end to systematic racism, social injustice, and inequality. The Standards of Nursing Practice found in Board Rule 217.11(1)(L) requires that all nurses in the State of Texas: LVNs, RNs, and APRNs, provide, without discrimination, nursing services regardless of the age, disability, economic status, gender, national origin, race, religion, health problems, or sexual orientation of the client served. Within this rule, we see that there is no place for discrimination of any kind at any level of nursing licensure or in any practice setting in the State of Texas.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2020, June 8). National Council of State Boards of Nursing: Statement on diversity and equality in America. Retrieved from <https://www.ncsbn.org/NCSBNDiversity-Statement.pdf>

## Effects - cont. from prev. pg.

Final Points – Thoughts and Comments:

- “Faculty and students thrived, not just survived.”
- Weekly team meetings with faculty helped them stay connected.
- It is important to maintain frequent communications with clinical partners to ensure the ongoing relationships.
- “Working at home is challenging. Faculty did not work 8 hours a day – but worked 12 hours or more a day because students called, texted, and emailed all day long. The students needed support during this crisis.”
- “My faculty have proven that they are the world’s best innovators!”



The banner features the Texas state outline on the left, the word "Texas" in large blue font, and the text "Disaster Volunteer Registry for Medical, Public Health and Lay Volunteer Responders" in a blue box. The background shows a landscape with a windmill and a sun.

### Texas Disaster Volunteer Registry

The Board of Nursing receives calls every day from nurses requesting information on volunteer opportunities during this challenging time. Nurses wishing to volunteer may apply through the Texas Disaster Volunteer Registry at: <https://www.texasdisastervolunteerregistry.org/>. Please note: if you need to obtain an active nursing license, please complete that process first, before you register to volunteer.

# Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review (SHNPR) Forms Updated



Updated Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review (SHNPR) forms are now available on the Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) [website](#). The updated forms reflect the most recent legislative changes enacted in September 2019. During the 2019 legislative session, **House Bill 2410** was passed to allow for the verbal invocation of safe harbor when a nurse has to attend to imminent patient care needs. The Board's SHNPR forms are intended to make the process faster and easier when a nurse makes a good faith request for nursing peer review of an assignment or conduct the nurse is requested to perform and that the nurse believes could result in a violation of the Nursing Practice Act (NPA) or Board rules [NPR Law **303.005**; and **Board Rule 217.20(a)(15)**]. Safe harbor is a process between the nurse and the employer; please do **not** send these forms to the BON. An entity required to have a nursing peer review plan must have policies and procedures that encompass, at a minimum, the requirements of the applicable statutes and rules related to nursing peer review from the BON. Use of the BON's forms is not required; however, a facility that chooses to use their own safe harbor forms based on their policies and procedures, must have a way for nurses to invoke safe harbor.

Below is an overview of the recently updated Safe Harbor Forms:

- **General Information About Safe Harbor** provides a brief overview of the Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review process and applicable laws and rules for review. This form is available via hyperlinks throughout the subsequent forms for reference.
- **BON Safe Harbor Quick Request Form** is an abbreviated form to allow a nurse to quickly supply the key information necessary to initially invoke safe harbor

in writing as required by Board Rule 217.20(d)(3) at the time the nurse is asked to accept what he/she believes to be an unsafe assignment or engage in conduct he/she believes could result in a violation of the NPA or Board rules. This form has been updated to reflect the recent changes to include:

- The verbal invocation of safe harbor - If a nurse is unable to complete a Safe Harbor Quick Request or other written form meeting the requirements for Safe Harbor Quick Request due to immediate patient care needs, the nurse may orally invoke safe harbor by notifying the nurse's supervisor of the request. After receiving oral notification of a request, the nurse's supervisor must record in writing the requirement of a Safe Harbor Quick Request, described in Board Rule 217.20(d)(3), which must be signed and attested to by the requesting nurse and the nurse's supervisor who prepared the written record.
- Elimination of the Medical Reasonableness of a Physician Order Form - A nurse who wishes to invoke safe harbor for the medical reasonableness of a physician order can now use the BON Safe Harbor Quick Request Form to do so. This may ease the process for nurses as it now excludes the previously separate Medical Reasonableness of a Physician Order Form.
- Nurse's decision to sustain or withdraw the safe harbor invocation - A section to

address a nurse's decision to sustain or withdraw the safe harbor invocation has been added to the bottom of page 2 of the BON Safe Harbor Quick Request Form.

- **BON Comprehensive Written Request for Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review Form** is a sample form that may be used to document the more in-depth information that the nurse must specify in writing before leaving the work setting at the end of the work period. The nurse may supply supporting documents at a later time; however, the comprehensive details of the event(s) surrounding the request for safe harbor must be recorded prior to the nurse leaving the premises, as outlined in Board Rule 217.20(d)(4).
- **BON Safe Harbor Resources for Facilities** is a completely new form that was designed by Board staff to help facilities document their safe harbor nursing peer review process. This document is a guide, and the use of this document is not required by law or BON rule during the safe harbor nursing peer review process within a facility. The facility should have policies and procedures concerning safe harbor and may require use of specific documentation forms.

Please do **not** send these forms to the BON. Use of the SHNPR forms is NOT required, they were created and updated to help ensure that all of the required procedural elements are captured according to the Board's rules and regulations [Nursing Peer Review Law **303.005**; and **Board Rule 217.20**]. The newly updated forms can be accessed on the BON website under the **Forms** heading, then **Safe Harbor** ([https://www.bon.texas.gov/forms\\_safe\\_harbor.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/forms_safe_harbor.asp)).



# Free Course on Human Trafficking Prevention Offered by Texas Health and Human Services Commission

The Department of Homeland Security defines human trafficking as involving the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. In essence, human trafficking is a form of modern slavery that occurs in every state, including Texas. The National Human Trafficking Hotline reports that Texas has the second highest number of reported cases in the nation, with 561 cases reported in 2019. This year has been especially harmful, as measures taken to combat the COVID-19 pandemic have been inadvertently detrimental to victims. Efforts to control the spread such as restricting movement, diverting law enforcement resources, and reducing social and public services have restricted support for victims and increased their risk of exploitation. Recognizing key indicators of human trafficking is the first step in identifying victims and can help save a life. Nurses are in a unique position to aid in the identification of victims of human trafficking due to their connection to the community and their specialized training, judgment, and skills. A new continuing education requirement that applies to health practitioners in Texas, including nurses, will require training to help identify these victims.

**House Bill 2059** was passed during the 2019 Texas Legislative session, and signed into law by the Governor of Texas. This bill requires nurses that provide direct patient care to complete a human trafficking prevention course that covers identifying and assisting victims of human trafficking before the end of every licensing period. This requirement is applicable to licensure renewals on or after September 1, 2020.

To meet this continuing education requirement, a course must be approved by the Executive Commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). A free course is already available on the HHSC **Health Care Practitioner Human Trafficking Training** webpage. This course, titled **SOAR to Health and Wellness**, is worth one contact hour, and is jointly provided by the Postgraduate Institute for Medicine, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families, Office on Trafficking in Persons and Office on Women’s Health. Contact hours obtained to meet the human trafficking prevention continuing nursing education (CNE) requirement will count towards completion of the 20 contact hours of CNE required for all nurses. Certification may not be used to fulfill this requirement; an HHSC-approved course must be completed. As HHSC approves additional train-

ing courses on human trafficking, the list of approved trainings on the HHSC website will be updated.

By learning to recognize and report suspected trafficking, nurses can make a difference. To report human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888, text “HELP” to 233733 (BeFree), or call 911 for emergencies. Contact numbers are toll free and available 24/7.

## Safe Harbor - cont. from prev. page

In addition to the SHNPR forms update, Board Staff have also updated the following SHNPR resources:

On the BON website under the **Practice** heading, then **Nursing Peer Review/Incident-Based and Safe Harbor** ([https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice\\_peer\\_review.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice_peer_review.asp)) and under the **FAQs** heading, then **Nursing Peer Review** ([https://www.bon.texas.gov/faq\\_peer\\_review.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/faq_peer_review.asp)). On the BON website, under the **COVID-19 Information** page, then **Practice: NEW - Updated Safe Harbor Forms** which also include an informational video outlining the new Safe Harbor Forms.

## Funding Opportunity: Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)-Ready Facilities Program

**Does your community need funding support for sexual assault forensic exams? Hospital facilities are eligible for state funding to create new SANE programs or help support existing ones.**

The Governor’s Public Safety Office released a competitive funding opportunity for a 12-month project for hospital facilities seeking to achieve or maintain a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)-Ready designation, as defined in Chapter 323 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Applications may be submitted by general and special hospitals licensed under Chapter 241 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, a general or special hospital owned by the State, or a freestanding emergency medical care facility licensed under Chapter

254 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. *Grants to a single facility\* may not exceed \$50,000 in any fiscal year.* Current grantees are eligible to reapply.

Awarded grants will begin on 9/1/2020 and end on 9/30/2021. Interested and eligible applicants should fully review the funding announcement and must apply through **eGrants**. **Applications are due by 5pm on August 6, 2020.**

Allowable costs under this funding announcement include, but are not limited to:

1. **Basic Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Collection Training as defined in Sec. 323.0045 of the Texas Health and Safety Code;**
2. **Initial and continuing education of Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners as defined in Sec. 323.001 (4-a) of the Texas Health and Safety Code;**
3. **Equipment and supplies (e.g. exam table,**

**colposcopes, swab box/dryers, refrigerators for temporary storage of evidence); and**

4. **Salary and overtime (limited to Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners while attending training or the backfilling of Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners whom are off-site attending training).**

Grant details and criteria will be shared on the BON Facebook page when available. Click **here** to review the eGrants User’s Guide to Creating an Application.

*\* A “single facility” is defined as a facility within a hospital system. Multiple “single facilities” with the same hospital system are eligible to apply individually*

## *IV Hydration: What Texas Nurses Need to Know*

Nursing Consultants for Practice at the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) receive hundreds of calls and email inquiries pertaining to nursing practice regulation each month. Through this communication with nurses, employers, and other stakeholders, Board consultants remain apprised of developments in nursing practice as the health care industry evolves and new health trends gain public attention. Recently, the Board has received inquiries about practice settings that market wellness promotion services, such as intravenous (IV) hydration, also sometimes referred to as “IV vitamin therapy” or “hydration therapy”.



In keeping with the Board’s mission of public protection, this article aims to offer regulatory considerations nurses should be mindful of when deciding whether to practice in such a setting. In 2018, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) filed charges against a marketer and seller of IV therapy products in Texas for making false and unsupported health claims (FTC, 2018). These claims advertised IV therapy products to treat serious diseases such as cancer, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and congestive heart failure (FTC, 2018). The final FTC order prohibits the company from making such claims, unless they can be supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence (FTC, 2018). Joe Simmons, chairman of the FTC (2018), emphasized that, “This enforcement action should send a clear message to the burgeoning IV therapy industry and sellers of all healthcare products.” Nurses should be mindful of practicing in a setting that makes false and unsupported health claims such as these.

### **National Insight**

To learn more about IV hydration practice trends, Board Staff distributed a survey to members of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Of the 25 responding boards of nursing, 11 confirmed that IV hydration services are offered in their state. Among the boards that have seen this new practice setting, several responded that nurses are provided general scope of practice guidelines as the authorization for the treatment, and other states responded that nurses are implementing physician standing delegation orders. It was noted that additional regulations may or may not require a provider evaluation of the patient at some point during the encounter. A few of the survey responses reflected that boards recommend nurses use well-developed policies, procedures, and guidelines. Some boards of nursing responded that there are laws and rules relevant to nursing practice, such as rules applicable to pharmacy regulation, that place limitations on IV hydration outside of the hospital setting. Given there is variability among states in their regulation of nurses administering IV hydration therapy, it is essential that nurses adhere to all laws and rules that apply to the state in which they are providing nursing care.

### **Guidance for the Texas Nurse**

IV therapy is a learned skill practiced by many Texas nurses. There are, however, necessary considerations for the safe performance of this skill outside of a traditional facility setting. All nurses licensed to practice nursing in Texas must adhere to the Nursing Practice Act (NPA) and Board rules, as well as other regulations pertinent to the setting. Therefore, the performance of IV hydration in a non-traditional setting, such as a mobile unit or wellness clinic, should be consistent with applicable regulations, prevailing standards of care, and current national nursing guidelines specific to IV therapy.

When initiating IV therapy services, including the administration of medications, such as isotonic IV fluids, a valid provider order is required. Some orders may come from a provider who has examined the patient.

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**KEY NOTES FOR TEXAS NURSES  
RELATED TO PHYSICIAN STANDING  
DELEGATION ORDERS:**

- Intended to be used prior to examination and evaluation by a physician, based on pre-determined criteria;
- Cannot authorize the person carrying out the standing orders to exercise independent medical judgment; and
- Can only be authorized by a physician.

Other settings may utilize physician standing delegation orders. If the nurse intends to provide these services under a physician standing delegation order, he/she should review the rules from the Texas Medical Board (TMB) that define standing delegation orders, found in **Texas Administrative Code Chapter 193**, and **Board Position Statement 15.5 Nurses with Responsibility for Initiating Physician Standing Orders**. Nurses function under their own licenses and assume responsibility and accountability for the care they provide, as nurses do not practice “under a physician’s license.” Even if all criteria for initiating physician standing delegation orders are met, nurses are required to act in the best interest of their patients, and this duty supersedes any physician order or employer policy. Nurses are among the most trusted professionals in America (Reinhart, 2020); therefore, patients, in addition to the Board, expect that during their care, nurses will advocate in the patient's best interest.

In all practice settings, nurses must clarify any order or treatment regimen that the nurse has reason to believe is inaccurate, non-efficacious, or contraindicated by consulting with the appropriate licensed practitioner and notifying the ordering practitioner when the nurse makes the decision not to administer the medication or treatment [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(N)**].

## Scope of Practice Decisions

A resource called the **Scope of Practice Decision-Making Model (DMM)**, developed by Board Staff, is a useful tool available for nurses within all levels of licensure. Parts of the DMM that apply to these practice settings and interventions under consideration have been included for further guidance; however, each nurse is encouraged to independently review the DMM in its entirety and apply it based on his/her individual educational background, knowledge, and experience. After reviewing the activity or intervention and verifying that it is not prohibited by the Texas NPA and Board rules, guidelines, or position statements, or any federal, state, local law or rule affecting the nurse’s current area of nursing practice [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(A)**], the Texas nurse must also ensure:

- That the activity or intervention is authorized by a valid order. If there is any question about the accuracy or appropriateness of the order, the nurse must seek clarification [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(N)**].
- The patient’s record is thoroughly reviewed, an appropriate nursing assessment of the patient is conducted (related to the nurse’s level of licensure), and no contraindications exist to the ordered treatment [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(C)**].
- Administration and documentation of the intervention are accurate and complete in the patient’s record, including the evaluation and documentation of the patient’s response to the treatment [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(D)**].
- That he/she is prepared and capable of instituting nursing interventions to resolve an untoward event/ reaction that occurs as a result of the administration of IV therapies [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(B)&(M)**].
- Implementation of measures to prevent exposure to infectious pathogens and communicable conditions. This includes use of the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) related to the patient’s condition, in order to guarantee compliance with evidence-based practice guidelines from the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and the **Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)**.

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## **IV Hydration** – cont. from prev. pg.

- If an LVN is performing the intervention, that appropriate clinical supervision is available by a RN (including APRN), physician assistant, physician, podiatrist, or dentist [NPA Sec. **301.353** and **Board Rule 217.11(1)(U)**].
- IV therapy nursing services are consistent with current nursing evidence-based practice guidelines, and prevailing national nursing standards of care, such as those published by the National Infusion Center Association (NICA) **Minimum Standards for In-Office Infusions** or the **Infusion Nurse’s Society** (INS) recommendations.
- All laws and rules are followed from other applicable regulatory agencies, such as the TMB, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy, THHS, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [**Board Rule 217.11(1)(A)**].

## **A Final Note**

As new trends emerge in health care, nurses are called upon to deliver safe nursing care, and must realize their responsibility to stay abreast of current evidence-based practice standards, along with all applicable laws and rules related to their area of nursing practice. Board Staff recommends that nurses exercise caution and critical thinking when considering practicing in a setting that offers elective IV hydration and vitamin therapy. This ensures that patients are receiving the safe, high quality health care they deserve.

## **References**

- Federal Trade Commission. (2018, September 20). FTC brings first-ever action targeting “iv cocktail” therapy marketer. Retrieved from: <https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2018/09/ftc-brings-first-ever-action-targeting-iv-cocktail-therapy>
- National Infusion Center Association. (2019). Minimum standards for in-office infusion. Retrieved from: <https://infusioncenter.org/2019-06-19-nica-minimum-standards-for-in-office-infusion/>
- Reinhart, R. (2020, January 6). Nurses continue to rate highest in honesty, ethics. Retrieved from: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/274673/nurses-continue-rate-highest-honesty-ethics.aspx>
- Texas Board of Nursing. (2019). Nursing practice act. Retrieved from: [https://www.bon.texas.gov/laws\\_and\\_rules\\_nursing\\_practice\\_act.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/laws_and_rules_nursing_practice_act.asp)
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### **Indiana Implements Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact**

On Wednesday, July 1, 2020, Indiana began implementation of the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC). Texas implemented the eNLC on January 19, 2018. The eNLC allows registered and vocational nurses who hold compact licensure to practice in any of the 34 eNLC states. Starting July 1, nurses holding an active multistate license in eNLC states may practice in Indiana. For more information about the eNLC, visit: <https://www.ncsbn.org/compacts.htm>

# NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following nurses had disciplinary action taken against their licenses through a Board order containing public information about the nurse's disciplinary action. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Board's licensure verification system should be utilized for verification. You can obtain information about these disciplinary actions from the Board's website, [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov), using the verification look-up under Licensure or under the disciplinary action section of Discipline & Complaints. Under Licensure, select Verification then click on the applicable type of license type; Discipline & Complaints, select Disciplinary Action then select individual newsletter date. Additionally, you can send your written request to the Texas Board of Nursing, Enforcement Division, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701-3944.

Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date	Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
Adams, Marinel Pitogo	RN 888215	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Contreras, Susan H.	RN 677084	Revoked	2/11/20
Aguirre, Amy Lynn	LVN 175816	Enforced Suspension	2/11/20	Corpuz, Berlette Go	RN 940964	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Alabi, Sikirat Fummlola	RN 739767 & LVN 188791	Probated Suspension	2/11/20	Cortez, Victor Manuel	RN 740545 & LVN 175447	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Alaniz, Martin Ruiz	RN 676510	Voluntary Surrender	4/22/20	Crippen, Megan Elizabeth	LVN 330339	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20
Alberter, Sydney Anne	RN 922161 & LVN 315639	Remedial Education	4/29/20	Crofford, Wanda Jo	LVN 90305	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Alston, Danielle Lisa	RN 838497	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Crump, III, James Alvin	LVN 162835	Voluntary Surrender	2/14/20
Anaya, Ileana Edith	LVN 335228	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20	Cullum, Krystal	RN 951259	Remedial Education	2/14/20
Anderson, Derecia Remeiko	RN 830013	Revoked	2/11/20	Curtis, Timothy Madrid	LVN 219568	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20
Andrejczak, Gail	AP139428, RX 28211 & RN 640539	Remedial Education with Fine	3/11/20	Daniel, Diana Christine	RN 607478	Remedial Education with Fine	3/11/20
Andres, Stephen Manibog	RN 622385	Remedial Education, Deferred	4/30/20	Davidson, Miranda Leigh	LVN 321431	Revoked	12/16/19
Anya, Ogbeyala Ifechiluru	RN 911144	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20	Dearmon, Cheronda Denise	LVN 222553	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Apodaca, Kaysha Marie	RN 811200	Remedial Education with Fine	4/3/20	Degrate, Latoria Shantelle	RN 809342	Remedial Education	4/29/20
Argyle, Robin Lynn	AP128700, RX 18448, RN 795288 & LVN 129139	Remedial Education	2/4/20	Demarco, Tracy Ann	RN 895269	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Ariwoda, Nancy Lewechi	RN 832517	Remedial Education with Fine	4/21/20	Djoumessi, Olivier Bertrand	RN 883494	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Arnold, Rebecca Ruth	RN 726873	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Drinning, Angelica Gonzales	RN 697252 & LVN 187288	Revoked	2/11/20
Asher, Rebecca Gail	RN 785685 & LVN 159773	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Dubry, Danielle Nicole	RN 870499	Revoked	4/23/20
Ashworth, Andrew Michael	RN 941091	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20	Durham, Rebecca Jo	LVN 132706	Remedial Education with Fine	4/17/20
Austin, Kathy D.	AP115505, RX 7410 & RN 548084	Probated Suspension	4/23/20	Ebot, Doris Ebai	RN 769309	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Ball, Aaron Taylor	RN 773474	Probated Suspension	2/11/20	Efurd, Dana Marie	RN 875431	Revoked	4/23/20
Ballard, Sandra Anne	LVN 343655	Remedial Education, Deferred	4/21/20	Elliott, Symone	LVN 327179	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Bartolo, Michelle	LVN 304887	Revoked	4/25/19	Emory, Kristy Bottenfield	RN 785092	Voluntary Surrender	3/19/20
Barton, Tami Jo	AP138216, RX 27035, RN 774843 & LVN 175730	Remedial Education	2/24/20	Erickson, Charles Lee	RN 756951	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Baugh, Stephanie Lynn	RN 807155 & LVN 211162	Revoked	4/23/20	Essien, Inyang	LVN 233222	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Bazan, Jose Jaime	LVN 339103	Revoked	4/23/20	Exum, James Arthur	RN 769006	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Bedore, Brandie Kay Ann	RN 788881	Reprimand with Fine	3/10/20	Fallahi, Daniel Ashkan	LVN 307035	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Benson, Sherrie Ann	RN 827320 & LVN 63642	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20	Fasehun, Taiwo Damola	LVN 317314	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Blasdell, Valya L.	RN 691501	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20	Fish, Katelyn Mary	RN 921779	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20
Borrego, Joshua	RN 830220	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20	Flores, Jose	LVN 317453	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Briseno, Krysta Nicolle	RN 801876	Enforced Suspension	4/23/20	Florez, Rachael Leija	RN 795721	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20
Brown, Brittany Renae	RN 956606	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20	Fox, Bonnie Lee	RN 220415	Remedial Education with Fine	4/28/20
Burnes, Sarah Louise	RN 832665 & LVN 300754	Probated Suspension	3/10/20	Franks, Sandra Kay	LVN 183284	Revoked	2/11/20
Burns, Amy	LVN 306716	Probated Suspension	3/10/20	Fulghum, Kimberly Kay	RN 812064	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20
Byrd, Brittney Kay	RN 812749	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20	Funteh, Audrey Mareh	RN 810556	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Caito, Jessie Rebeccah	RN 960091	Limited License	4/23/20	Galindo, Daniel	LVN 305093	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Callison, Debrah Lee	LVN 68617	Probated Suspension	4/23/20	Gallardo, Karla Gonzalez	RN 706350	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Cardenas, Cynthia Rae	LVN 336386	Remedial Education with Fine	2/6/20	Gallegos, Miranda Shae	RN 770625	Fine	2/24/20
Carmack, Priscilla Loretta	RN 593941	Limited License	4/23/20	Gallimore, Jennifer Elaine	LVN 183445	Probated Suspension	2/11/20
Carter, Emily Catherine	RN 945022	Remedial Education, Deferred	4/9/20	Galvan, Lucinda	LVN 300298	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Cavitt, Sonya	RN 919762	Remedial Education	4/20/20	Garcia, Grisel Alejandra	LVN 340673	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20
Cervantes, Julie	RN 652000	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20	Garcia, Jesus Reinaldo	LVN 136713	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Clark, Sharion Elaine	LVN 147113 & PTP AR PN L032434	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Garcia, Miguel	AP129972, RX 19596 & RN 797218	Enforced Suspension	3/30/20
Clemens, Youvona Diane	RN 867345	Revoked	2/11/20	Garza, Felisha Kate	LVN 343055	Probated Suspension	2/11/20
Coleman, Dona Nicole	RN 863801	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Garza, Jose Dolores	LVN 186429	Revoked	3/10/20
Constantinescu, Stefan	RN 935206	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Garza, Kyndness Dnae	RN 758149	Reprimand	2/11/20
				Ghose, Sayantan	RN 866348	Revoked	3/5/20

continued on next page

# DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- continued from previous page

Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date	Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
Gibson, Gerald Dee	RN 634368 & LVN 115336	Revoked	3/10/20	Laird, Angela Kay	LVN 187571	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Gloria, Dazael	LVN 301974	Voluntary Surrender	2/14/20	Laverock, Alex Easson	LVN 224865	Revoked	2/11/20
Goldsmith, Bethany Gayle	LVN 211759	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Leal, Adriana	RN 803121	Enforced Suspension	4/23/20
Gonzales, Salvador	RN 840984	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20	Ledbetter, Sauti Johari	RN 803454	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20
Gordon, Kathleen A.	RN 530520	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20	Ledford, William Arthur	AP107800, RX 1890 & RN 576559	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20
Gordon, III, Thomas Roy	RN 731995	Revoked	4/23/20	Lewis, Brittany Nicole	AP120669, RX 11584 & RN 741425	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20
Gravley, Kristen Carole	RN 914697	Revoked	2/11/20	Lewis, Patrick Kinder	LVN 96080	Remedial Education	4/9/20
Green, Lillian Shea	PTP AR RN R100265 & AR PN L056257	Voluntary Surrender	3/12/20	Lindmeyer, Katie Lynn	RN 896407	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Griffith, Courtney Monique	LVN 348616	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	London, Claudette Shantel	LVN 332310	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Guadiana, Brittney Marie	LVN 324445	Revoked	3/10/20	Longoria, Edna Mabel	RN 857020	Voluntary Surrender	2/13/20
Guerrero, Yolanda Micheal	LVN 346641	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20	Malveaux, Kia Kristell	RN 854727	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20
Gutierrez, Erica Kay	RN 772006	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Manno, Irma Mendez	RN 876557 & LVN 95307	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Haight, Tammy Lynn	RN 589037	Remedial Education with Fine	3/9/20	Martin, Deborah Rose	RN 640955	Revoked	3/10/20
Hamilton, Cynthia Joy	PTP NM RN 74871	Revoked	2/11/20	Martinez, Leticia Maria	RN 748056	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Hammond, William Lonnie	RN 930995 & LVN 305716	Enforced Suspension	4/23/20	Mason, Summer Dawn	LVN 191089	Enforced Suspension	3/10/20
Hammons, Adrienne Marie	RN 808939	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Maxwell, Kelly Jeanne	RN 983343	Remedial Education	3/18/20
Hannon, James Richard	LVN 319649	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	May, Mashanda Eleah	AP135343, RX 24395, RN 763651 & LVN 198695	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Hanville, Kathy Jo	RN 913041	Voluntary Surrender	2/5/20	McClain, Madison Baylee	PTP AR PN L058032	Revoked	3/10/20
Hataway, Shani Ann	RN 942739	Voluntary Surrender	3/17/20	McConnell, Nancy Joan	RN 547235	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20
Hendricks, Laurie Ann	RN 705392	Limited License	2/11/20	McKay, Julie Eileen	RN 623383	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20
Hernandez, Daniel	RN 680723	Revoked	8/28/19	McKinney, Leandra Danette	LVN 315765	Revoked	3/10/20
Hildebrand, Tommy Glen	RN 726260	Enforced Suspension	2/10/20	Melhart, Vicki Marie	RN 750985	Revoked	3/10/20
Hill, Tammy Eileen	LVN 185789	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Miller, Amanda Katherine	RN 689432 & LVN 180396	Revoked	3/10/20
Hill, Waymonette Tamara	LVN 233283	Remedial Education, Deferred	3/19/20	Miller, Stephenie Dawn	LVN 216327	Voluntary Surrender	2/12/20
Hilsabeck, Misty Joy	RN 730668	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20	Mills, Denise A.	RN 621831	Reprimand with Stipulations	2/11/20
Hons, Angela Marie	RN 664624	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Mitchell, Jennifer Gail	RN 249689	Remedial Education	4/27/20
Hood, Margie Michelle	LVN 206797	Voluntary Surrender	3/9/20	Modile, Adenike Priscilla	RN 826503 & LVN 219124	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Hoy, Christine Leann	LVN 316525	Remedial Education with Fine	2/7/20	Moinat, Stacy Diane	LVN 317203	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20
Hubbard, Brenda Sue	LVN 167196	Revoked	4/23/20	Montes, Fausto	RN 735989	Revoked	1/23/20
Hurley, Debra	RN 935953	Probated Suspension	3/10/20	Moore, Serena	LVN 330681	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20
Isip, Restydale Rodriguez	RN 719564	Probated Suspension	4/23/20	Moran, Sylvia Marie	LVN 300750	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Jacobs, Jada Janae	RN 720278	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Moreno, Ricardo	LVN 121722	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
James, Peggy Mack	LVN 175862	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20	Morris, Kelly Rachele	RN 924580	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20
Johnopolos, Nicole Moon	RN 914766 & LVN 312572	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20	Morton, Lisa Denise	LVN 128342	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	2/11/20
Johnson, Jennilyn Julian	LVN 189480	Probated Suspension	4/23/20	Nanez, Dora Alisia	LVN 202932	Enforced Suspension	3/17/20
Johnson, Linda	RN 638008	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Naylor, Chantelle Brooke	LVN 208215	Revoked	3/10/20
Johnson, Lyn	RN 936582	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Nethery, Heather A.	RN 526323	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20
Johnston, Kay Lynn Beth	AP133931, RX 23091 & RN 851615	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Nicolosi, Louis J.	RN 847398	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Jordan, Lee Anne	LVN 117465	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20	Nieman, Angela Diane	RN 589617	Voluntary Surrender	2/25/20
Kell, Kristen Cecelia	LVN 309962	Revoked	4/23/20	Norton, Kerri Dawn	RN 690020	Enforced Suspension	4/30/20
Kelly, Paula M.	RN 664373	Voluntary Surrender	2/18/20	Novil, Dieudonne I.	RN 868767	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Kemp, Leona Leslie	AP113242 & RN 583129	Revoked	3/10/20	Nwalia, Anthonia	LVN 315095	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Kennedy, Katherine Anne	RN 906920	Enforced Suspension	3/2/20	O'Donnell, Mary Catherine	RN 634889	Enforced Suspension	3/4/20
Killgore, Philip Jake	AP141102, RX 29719 & RN 963678	Remedial Education	4/17/20	Ogbonna, Christiana Ijeoma	RN 692428	Remedial Education with Fine	4/6/20
Kima, Elizabeth Esong	LVN 342711	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20	Okorafor, Godwin Ugochukwu	LVN 310006	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Kirk, Jamie	RN 656910	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Okotie, Florence Olayemi	RN 919623	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20
Knifley, Craig Eugene	LVN 210538	Revoked	4/23/20	Okpabhele, Kester	LVN 146172	Probated Suspension	2/11/20
Knight, Betty Kent	RN 833714	Revoked	3/10/20	Olawayin, Anuoluwapo O.	LVN 227608	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20
Koenig, Virginia K.	LVN 97329	Revoked	2/11/20				
Korte, Kathryn Sue	RN 699358	Voluntary Surrender	3/3/20				

continued on next page

# DISCIPLINARY ACTION

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Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date	Name	License Numbers	Discipline	Action Date
Olivares, Yessica	LVN 223281	Enforced Suspension	4/23/20	Thurman, Colleen Marie	AP129190, RX 18895 & RN 741010	Voluntary Surrender	2/6/20
Ortizogaz, Lorena	RN 832295	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Topliff, Patricia Helen	RN 864156	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20
Oshman, Leila	AP112356, RX 4955 & RN 638047	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Torres, Jenny Marie	RN 904986 & LVN 316147	Remedial Education with Fine	4/27/20
Pagel, Melanie Jo	LVN 227212	Revoked	2/11/20	Trotter, Alicia Kate	PTP NM RN 88067	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Pagel, Renate Hess	AP138209, RX 27028 & RN 548182	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20	Truken, Kelly Ann	RN 785819	Remedial Education with Fine	2/7/20
Parayno, John Lacambra	RN 904172	Voluntary Surrender	2/6/20	Ugo, Chinyere Victoria	LVN 324412	Remedial Education	3/18/20
Parra, Brenda Gisela	RN 951855 & LVN 307364	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Uribe, Tori Lynn	RN 932567	Revoked	3/10/20
Patterson, Sarah Denise	LVN 315658	Revoked	2/11/20	Uribes, Allen Michael	RN 837995	Revoked	3/5/20
Peterson, Patricia Elisse	LVN 316601	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20	Vazquez, Jaime C.	RN 823073	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Plotts, Rebecca McBride	RN 707921	Enforced Suspension	4/27/20	Walker, Shaley Lanae	LVN 317909	Voluntary Surrender	3/23/20
Ponce, Luis Devadid	RN 808160 & LVN 184564	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Wanan, Rodolphine Annick	LVN 327949	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20
Poufong, Etienne Clement	RN 815652	Remedial Education with Fine	4/21/20	Warehime, Tracy Diana	RN 884794 & LVN 138699	Remedial Education with Fine	2/5/20
Prudente, Jocelyn Ymas	RN 701705	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	West, Rachel Nikole	LVN 311955	Warning with Stipulations	2/11/20
Qualls, Stacey Ellen	LVN 190040	Revoked	4/23/20	Westcott, Gladys Marie	LVN 51575	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20
Radeke, Andrea Leigh	LVN 327196	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20	White, Rhonda Mitchell	RN 755997	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Ramey, Billy Ray	RN 670249 & LVN 167224	Voluntary Surrender	2/20/20	Wilkinson, Curtis L.	RN 621706 & LVN 150375	Voluntary Surrender	3/18/20
Reed, Aaron Christopher	PTP TN RN 232010	Warning with Stipulations	4/23/20	Williams, Shartamia Rochelle	RN 973053 & LVN 184126	Remedial Education with Fine	3/2/20
Reed, Lisa	RN 863181	Enforced Suspension	4/23/20	Williams, Wendy Renea	LVN 302528	Probated Suspension	4/23/20
Remchuk, Jordan Elise	RN 901666 & LVN 321174	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Willis, Vernita M.	RN 948782	Voluntary Surrender	3/9/20
Renteria, Sara	RN 866736	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20	Wisener, Hannah Justine	PTP NM PN 57386	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20
Riale, Morgan Brook	LVN 333602	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Wommack, Stephanie	RN 819830	Voluntary Surrender	4/3/20
Richardson, Sonya	RN 652945	Reprimand with Stipulations and Fine	3/10/20	Worthington, Heather Marie	RN 711943	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20
Risper, Linda Washington	LVN 67584	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20	Wright, Otis Derome	AP115175, RX 7071 & RN 694290	Probated Suspension	3/10/20
Roberson, Dyanon Delajuan	RN 900245	Remedial Education	3/5/20	Wyatt, Angela Marie	RN 762665 & LVN 192126	Enforced Suspension	4/13/20
Rodriguez, Philip Garza	AP129266 & RN 852368	Probated Suspension	4/23/20	Yancy, Latandra Ternaesha	LVN 208891	Remedial Education	3/27/20
Rodriguez, Philip Garza	RX 18963	Limited: No Controlled Substances	4/23/20	Ybarra, Felissa Eileen	RN 851553	Revoked	2/11/20
Rogers, Marvin Noel	RN 890176	Enforced Suspension	3/11/20	Young, Bobbie Irene	RN 867778 & LVN 313820	Warning with Stipulations and Fine	4/23/20
Roman, Adam	LVN 300390	Remedial Education, Deferred	2/11/20				
Roman, Kellie Leigh	LVN 222141	Voluntary Surrender	2/4/20				
Royse, Valerie D.	RN 852061	Warning with Stipulations, Deferred	4/23/20				
Saavedra, Rocio Daniela	LVN 331207	Remedial Education	3/16/20				
Salinas, Laurie	LVN 110442	Voluntary Surrender	3/10/20				
Sanders, Aimee Lynne	RN 735404	Voluntary Surrender	3/9/20				
Santos-Martinez, Nydia	RN 738752	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Schauer, Janice Sue	RN 708310 & LVN 81239	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Scorsolini, Christopher Robert	RN 825991	Revoked	3/10/20				
Silguero, Vidala Morales	LVN 305017	Remedial Education	4/24/20				
Skvorc, Patricia L.	PTP FL RN9449537	Remedial Education	2/6/20				
Smith, Latarsha Monique	RN 941376	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Sow, Maimouna	RN 888597	Remedial Education with Fine	4/27/20				
Spayd, Jessica Joyce	RN 644262	Revoked	2/11/20				
St. John, Kasi Jo	RN 905576	Warning with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Strait, Angela L.	LVN 228102	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Suarez, Melissa A.	RN 618614	Reprimand with Stipulations	4/23/20				
Sy, Ma Lourdes Cayabyab	RN 894083	Probated Suspension	4/23/20				
Talbott, Ross H.	RN 619327	Voluntary Surrender	2/27/20				
Thomas, Kelsey Blake	RN 970751 & LVN 317892	Reprimand with Stipulations	3/10/20				
Thompson, Amy Katharine	RN 717289 & LVN 194202	Voluntary Surrender	3/26/20				
Thompson, Melanie Nacole	RN 835482	Enforced Suspension	2/27/20				

## Abbreviations in the Notice of Disciplinary Action Section

**PTP** Privilege to Practice in Texas, also known as Nurse Licensure Compact Privilege, associated with the indicated state and license. States are abbreviated using the official two letter state abbreviations of the United States Postal System.

**RX** Prescription Authorization

## Statistical Information

The 262 disciplinary actions reported in this *Bulletin* represent only 0.061% of all nurses who are currently licensed to practice in the State of Texas.

As of March 2020, 99.62% of currently licensed Registered Nurses and 99.29% of currently licensed Vocational Nurses were without discipline according to Board records.

**Did you know...** The Board of Nursing provides instructional videos to guide new users on how to use the new Texas Nurse Licensure Portal. The videos are linked at: <https://www.bon.texas.gov/texasnurseportal/>

# Texas Board of Nursing Learning Opportunities: 2020



## Continuing Competency Workshops and Online Educational Offerings



The Texas Board of Nursing is excited to offer various learning opportunities for 2020. Nurses can explore a variety of topics designed to provide the most current information to support safe nursing practice. Space is limited, early registration is recommended.

### 2020 Workshops

#### **Protecting Your Patients & Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence & Ethics\*\*#>**

This workshop has been approved for 8.6 contact hours of CNE unless otherwise indicated.

**September 16, 2020 (Wednesday) - Virtual Presentation**

**Location: Online via Go to Webinar**

**CNE credit: 7.5 contact hours of CNE**

**Note: Computer speakers are REQUIRED for all virtual workshops**

**Cost: \$79.00**

**November 4, 2020 (Wednesday) - Houston**

**Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Houston Hobby Airport, 8181 Airport Blvd**

**Houston, TX 77061**

**[https://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-houston-hobby-airport-HOUHODT/index.html?SEO\\_id=GMB-DT-HOUHODT](https://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-houston-hobby-airport-HOUHODT/index.html?SEO_id=GMB-DT-HOUHODT)**

**CNE credit: 8.6 contact hours of CNE**

**November 10, 2020 (Tuesday) - Corpus Christi**

**Location: Omni Corpus Christi Hotel**

**900 North Shoreline Blvd**

**Corpus Christi, TX 78401**

**[https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/corpus-christi?utm\\_source=GMBlisting&utm\\_medium=organic](https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/corpus-christi?utm_source=GMBlisting&utm_medium=organic)**

**CNE credit: 8.6 contact hours of CNE**

**Note:** Computer speakers are REQUIRED for all virtual workshops. No cash accepted for payment. Early registration is encouraged.

**Cost:** In-Person pre-registration cost is \$109.00. Walk-in registration on day of in-person workshop is \$125.00, if space available. Virtual workshop pre-registration \$79.00.

**Time:** 8:00 to 4:30 pm (workshop city local time) or 8:00 to 3:30 (if delivered virtually)

### How to Register

You can register for all Board of Nursing (BON) educational offerings--online courses and workshops--through the BON CNE Course Catalog. To register for a BON workshop or online course, please visit our website at [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov) and select the CNE Course Catalog icon. You will receive a purchase confirmation and event reminders via your email address leading up to the scheduled activity and for post activity reminders in order to help you access your CNE Certificate of Completion. Instructions and help for confirming that your workstation is compatible with the online process are provided for each event. All of the BON CNE activities include online components that must be completed in conjunction with the activity in order to receive completion credit and certificates. When you register online, a BON Lifelong Learning Account is created that will be your home for accessing handouts, evaluations, and certificates is created that will be your home for accessing handouts, evaluations, and certificates.

### Interactive Online Learning

#### **Nursing Regulations for Safe Practice\*\*#**

This interactive online CNE course is easy to access on any schedule. Approved for 2.8 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Prescriptive Authority for APRNs\*\***

This course provides information on the current laws and regulations governing prescriptive authority in the State of Texas. The course is designed to help the learner develop a greater understanding of delegation of prescriptive authority to Texas APRNs and requirements that must be met for APRNs to be in compliance with Texas laws and BON rules. Approved for 1.2 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Documentation: So Let It Be Said...In Writing That Is\*\***

The purpose of this online continuing education activity is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to nursing documentation in Texas. Approved for 1.4 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Texas Online Nursing Jurisprudence Exam Prep Course®**

The BON has developed a Nursing Jurisprudence Exam Prep Course that offers interactive instruction on the subject areas covered on the Nursing Jurisprudence Exam (NJE). The prep course is delivered online with the ability to bookmark "Hot Topics" to review later. The course, complete with training on how to locate information on the BON website, also includes access to printable resources and practice questions that will be useful, not only for NJE preparation but also for your future nursing practice. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Determining APRN Scope of Practice\*\***

The purpose of this online continuing education activity is to provide advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to the advanced practice scope of practice in Texas. Approved for 1.4 contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Nursing Delegation: Distribution of the Workload\*\***

This course provides all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to nursing delegation in Texas, providing nurses with 2.0 Continuing Nursing Education contact hours. Cost: \$25.00.

#### **Nursing Peer Review: Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review and Whistleblower Protections**

The purpose of this online continuing education offering is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to Safe Harbor Nursing Peer Review and Whistleblower Protections in Texas. This course is approved for 1.3 CNE contact hours. Cost \$25.00

# Texas Board of Nursing Learning Opportunities: 2020

## Nursing Peer Review: Incident-Based Nursing Peer Review and the Minor Incidents Rule

The purpose of this online continuing education offering is to provide all licensed nurses with information on the current standards of nursing practice, rules, and regulations applicable to Incident-Based Nursing Peer Review and the Minor Incident Rule in Texas. This course is approved for 1.6 CNE contact hours. Cost \$25.00

## BON Lifelong Learning Account

Depending on the continuing education course, you may be required to log into your individual account to complete follow-up learning activities and/or course evaluations after a workshop, webinar, or online course in order to receive your CNE certificate of completion.

Your BON Lifelong Learning Account will also contain links for workshop handouts, any required forms, post-activity certificates of completion, and other helpful resources for each registered activity. If questions arise during your registration or during an online learning course, there are specific Help links throughout the process to direct you to the dedicated Online Learning Help Desk.

Secure online payments are completed using major credit cards, bank cards (those with Visa or MasterCard logos), or online checks. Registration payments submitted directly to the Board will be returned and the registration process will be delayed. Employers, organizations, or groups can complete payment for multiple registrants with the purchase of a bulk voucher. The bulk voucher system will send the voucher information to the group coordinator for distribution to individual registrants. Each individual will use the voucher as the form of payment during her/his own online registration.

Visit the BON CNE Catalog at <https://www.bon.texas.gov/catalog/> for the latest information.

## Texas Board of Nursing Meeting Schedule

### 2020 Board Meeting Dates

July 23\*                      October 22-23

### 2020 Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee Meeting Dates

August 18\*                      November 10  
September 8                      December 8

All Board and Eligibility & Disciplinary Committee Meetings will be held in Austin at the William P. Hobby Building located at 333 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, 78701.

\* - Due to the COVID-19 Virus, the board meeting scheduled for July 23rd, 2020 will be held virtually. Meeting access information will be posted at [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov)

## BON Continuing Competency Offerings Address Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics Requirement

In 2013, the 83rd Regular Texas Legislative Session passed a law that specified continuing education requirements for all nurses. Senate Bill (SB) 1058 requires nurses to complete at least 2 hours of continuing education related to nursing jurisprudence and ethics before the end of every third two-year licensing period. The BON has two continuing education offerings which meet the requirement: the workshop titled, "Protecting Your Patients & Your Practice, Nursing Jurisprudence & Ethics", and the interactive online course titled, "Nursing Regulations for Safe Practice". For more information about BON continuing competency requirements, visit the Board's website, click on **Laws and Rules**, then **Rules and Regulations**, and then **Chapter 216**.

## Legend

- \*\* This continuing nursing education offering was approved by the Texas Board of Nursing. The Texas Board of Nursing is an approved provider of continuing education by the Alabama Board of Nursing, ABNP1509, expiration date August 17, 2020.
- # This offering meets the 2-hour CNE requirement for nursing jurisprudence and ethics established during the 2013 Legislative Session.
- + This offering satisfies the nursing jurisprudence and ethics requirement for Board orders.
- @ This course does not award CNE contact hours.
- > The Authors, Speakers/Presenters, Content Reviewers and Experts declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

## Board of Nursing Contact Information

- MAIN NUMBER.....(512) 305-7400  
 FAX.....(512) 305-7401  
 -- 24-hour Access  
 -- License Verification  
 -- General Information
- ENFORCEMENT.....(512) 305-6838  
 -- Complaint and Disciplinary Action Inquiries  
 -- Violations of NPA and Rules and Regulations  
 -- Monitoring of Disciplined RNs and LVNs
- OPERATIONS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE.....(512) 305-6809  
 -- License Renewals, Endorsement, Examination, or  
 -- Continuing Education for Nurses.....webmaster@bon.texas.gov
- SALES OF LISTS.....(512) 305-6848  
 -- Electronic Nurse Files  
 -- Publications
- PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL NURSING
- ADVANCED PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6843  
 -- APRN Application and  
 -- Prescriptive Authority Procedures.....aprn@bon.texas.gov
- NURSING EDUCATION.....(512) 305-6816
- NURSING PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6802  
 -- Nursing Practice Issues  
 -- Legislation  
 -- Workshop Information.....(512) 305-6844  
 -- Workshop e-mail inquiries.....workshops@bon.texas.gov
- NEWSLETTER INFO.....(512) 305-6842  
 -- WEB Address.....www.bon.texas.gov  
 -- Refer e-mail inquiries to:.....webmaster@bon.texas.gov



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The purpose of the *Texas Board of Nursing Bulletin* is to disseminate information to nurses licensed by the State of Texas, their employers, health care providers, and the public concerning laws and regulations established by the Texas Board of Nursing related to the safe and legal practice of nursing. The *Texas Board of Nursing Bulletin* provides information on current issues and trends in nursing regulation, status of nursing education programs, information regarding licensure and nursing practice, and disciplinary action taken against licensees who violated the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules and Regulations.

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#### Office Hours and Location

The office of the Texas Board of Nursing is located in the William P. Hobby Building, located at the corner of 4th and Guadalupe in downtown Austin. The mailing address is: 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-460, Austin, Texas 78701-3944. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays. However, during the COVID-19 crisis, no visitors are permitted in the Board's office.

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