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REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ANP Application Fee	3
ANP: Why Need Board Approval	7
Board Appoints Task Force	2
Disciplinary Action	9
Education Report	3
Evaluation Survey Report Available	11
Fee Change for Duplicate Licenses	3
Financial Aid for Nursing Students	4
How to Report a RN to the Board	8
Immediate Steps to Increase RNs	3
Legal Eagle	6
Loan Program for Students in Rural Areas	4
Mandatory CE	2
Practice Related Questions and Answers	5
Speaking Tour Continues	2
Update on Limited Prescriptive Authority for ANPs	7
Use of Protocols in Advanced Nursing Practice	5
Warning/Alert	8

OPEN FORUM

This is a reminder that individuals or representatives of groups have an opportunity to communicate directly with the Board of Nurse Examiners during Open Forum, which is held during each Board meeting.

Interested persons are requested to notify the Executive Director in writing or by telephone prior to the scheduled Board meeting so that the request to address the Board is assured, and to confirm the time, date and location of the open forum.

SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER

Please share the information in this newsletter with as many nurses as possible by posting the newsletter, duplicating portions or all of the newsletter, or using excerpts in your own newsletter.

DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS RESIGNS

Ray Toburen has resigned his position as Director of Investigation and Enforcement with Friday, June 15, 1990 being his final day at the agency. Mr. Toburen has been with the Board of Nurse Examiners since September, 1982, and has served as Director of Investigation and Enforcement since September, 1987. His knowledge and expertise will be missed by the agency and by the nursing community, as well.

Ms. Theresa LeCompte has been named Interim Director and will serve until the position can be filled. We anticipate filling the position on or before September 1, 1990. Ms. Noemi Leal has been named Interim Associate Director. We are confident of Ms. LeCompte's and Ms. Leal's abilities to manage the department during the transition and of the investigative staff's ability to maintain the high level of investigative work we have come to expect.

DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICE AND COMPLIANCE

Cady Crismon, R.N., M.S.N., has been named Director of the newly formulated Department of Practice and Compliance. This department will encompass the functions of the Department of Investigations and Enforcement and take on the added responsibility of addressing the scope of practice issues, Advanced Nurse Practitioners, and mandatory continuing education. Mrs. Crismon has been employed with the Board of Nurse Examiners since September, 1988 as a Nursing Consultant.

PROPOSED RULES AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RULES

The Board held a public hearing on May 15, 1990 to receive testimony on proposed rules 221.1, 221.7 and 221.8 regarding Definitions, Carrying out Prescription Drug Orders and Enforcement for Advanced Nurse Practitioners. These rules were adopted with minor changes and became effective June 19, 1990.

The Board is proposing a rule change to §217.16 regarding Peer Assistance Programs. The amendment is being proposed to help clarify that a nurse who is voluntarily requesting participation in the peer assistance program prior to his/her practice becoming impaired does not need to be reported to the Board of Nurse Examiners for noncompliance with the peer assistance program. The amendment is consistent with federal law. The proposed amendment was published in the June 8, 1990 issue of the TEXAS REGISTER.

BOARD APPOINTS TASK FORCE

The Board has been studying data on the declining pass rates of graduates of foreign nursing schools on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). The issue of whether the foreign educated nurse should continue to be issued a temporary permit is undergoing intense evaluation. At the May, 1990 Board meeting, an Open Forum was held to gather input from RNs, employers, professional associations and other interested parties. The Board also considered numerous written comments and suggestions.

It was the decision of the Board to appoint a Task Force to consider the many factors involved with the issuance of permits to graduates of foreign schools and recommend possible rule changes which would assure public protection while maintaining the supply of qualified nurses.

The Task Force met on June 11, 1990, and began to formulate recommendations. On July 16, the group met again to finalize recommendations to be considered by the Board.

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BOARD MEETING DATES

Regular meetings of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas are scheduled to be held on the following dates:

September 25-27, 1990	Austin
November 13-15, 1990	Austin
January 29-31, 1991	Austin

The Board meetings are open to the public. Any group or individual wishing to attend any portion of the Board meeting should contact Erlene Fisher at 512-835-8650 at least four weeks prior to the Board meeting to verify availability of space, the date and location.

.....

MANDATORY CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Joint Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Nurse Examiners and the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners continues to meet and discuss the many issues associated with the development of rules requiring continuing education for relicensure. It is the intent of the Advisory Committee to recommend a system which would allow the nurse to comply through a variety of educational activities. RNs/LVNs will have ample time to complete the required 20 hours per two-year licensure renewal period once rules are adopted. There are no requirements in place at the present time. Please do not submit CE certificates to our office. You will be notified of when to submit documentation.

The next meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee is scheduled for Friday, September 14, 1990. The Committee meets at:

*Ramada Inn-Airport
 5660 N. IH 35
 Austin, Texas*

If you need additional information regarding mandatory continuing education or the Advisory Committee meetings, please contact Cady Crismon, M.S.N., R.N., or Kathy Vrazel, Administrative Assistant, at the Board's office (512) 835-8685.

SPEAKING TOUR CONTINUES

The Board has presented 10 of the 23 workshops planned to inform nurses around the state about the Nurse Practice Act, current legislation, peer review, the investigatory process and other topics of interest. Thus far, approximately 2,200 RNs have attended the program which is approved for 6 contact hours of continuing education.

The following dates and sites for upcoming workshops are confirmed:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 21, 1990	Wichita Falls
September 12, 1990	Victoria
October 11, 1990	Dallas
October 12, 1990	Dallas
November 7, 1990	Denton
December 13, 1990	Laredo
January 22, 1991	Beaumont
February 19, 1991	Texarkana

Additional workshops are planned for Abilene, San Angelo, Lubbock, Bryan, San Antonio, Houston, and Corpus Christi.

OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS

The office of the Board of Nurse Examiners is located at 9101 Burnet Road, Suite 104 (Continental Savings Building at the intersection of Hwy. 183 and Burnet Road) in Austin, Texas. Our mailing address is Box 140466, Austin, Texas 78714.

The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays. The Board's office is closed on the following days:

September 3, 1990
November 22-23, 1990

Labor Day
Thanksgiving

FEE CHANGE FOR DUPLICATE LICENSES

Effective May 1, 1990, the fee for a duplicate wallet size license increased to \$10.00. Duplicate licenses are issued due to loss, theft, or name change. Request forms are available from the BNE office. The completed form must be notarized and accompanied by the \$10.00 fee. If the request is made due to name change, please submit a photocopy of the name change document, i.e., marriage license, divorce decree (stating actual name change), or court order, along with the completed form and fee. Processing takes approximately seven to ten days. Questions regarding the duplicate license process may be directed in writing to the Board's office, or by telephone to (512) 835-4880, Ext. 16.

EDUCATION REPORT

At the May 15-17, 1990 meeting of the Board, the following programs were granted initial accreditation:

- *Corpus Christi State University Generic BSN*
- *Collin County Community College ADN, McKinney*
- *The University of Texas - Pan American Generic BSN, Edinburg*
- *Texas Woman's University Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, Dallas*

A request for an extended campus of the Howard County Junior College at Snyder was also approved.

The Board members received reports on 9 survey visits and 15 summaries of annual reports of nursing programs. All programs were granted continued accreditation.

TEXAS NURSING PROGRAMS TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED NURSES

As the nursing shortage persists, an increasing number of nurse graduates were scheduled to take the July, 1990 NCLEX-RN. Four thousand and twenty six (4,026) candidates wrote the examination in Texas, with 1,590 scheduled in Austin, 1,238 in Galveston, and 1,198 in Fort Worth.

With the dramatic changes in the health care system, the demand for nurses is expected to continue well into the 1990's. Directors of Texas nursing programs continue to report that a record number of individuals are being admitted to nursing programs throughout the state. Coupled with this increase of students is an escalating shortage of qualified nurse faculty. Only 6.28% of licensed RN's working in Texas have masters degrees and less than 1% have doctorates. Faculty salaries and the economic downturn are contributing factors to the current nursing faculty shortage. A nursing study committee report addressing the critical nursing shortage was presented to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on July 12, 1990. This report provides recommendations on alleviating the nursing shortage and will be submitted to the 72nd Legislature.

RESEARCH STUDY

The Board of Nurse Examiners' Research Study on Peer Review has been selected by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) as one of three studies to be presented in the Research Forum at the 12th Annual Convention and Delegate Assembly of the NCSBN to be held in Portland, Maine on August 7-11, 1990. The study, which was conducted by Dr. Julie Houfek, will be presented by Cady Crismon, Director of Practice and Compliance for the Board of Nurse Examiners.

ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONER APPLICATION FEE

The Board of Nurse Examiners has authorized a fee of \$25.00 for Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) approval, effective May 1, 1990. The fee should accompany the ANP application. If you would like to apply for ANP approval, please request an application from the Board office. Photocopies of the application will not be accepted. Questions regarding eligibility or the application process may be directed in writing to the Board's office, marked "ATTN: ANP" or by phone to (512) 835-8650.

FINANCIAL AID FOR PROFESSIONAL NURSING STUDENTS - SB 1351

The 71st Texas Legislature (1989) passed Senate Bill 1351 which authorized the establishment of three programs of financial assistance - a scholarship program, an employer matching fund program, and a loan repayment program.

Through the Loan Repayment Program for Professional Nurses, eligible registered nurses can have up to \$2,000 in student loans repaid for each year of full-time employment in Texas. Nurses are to apply directly to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) at Box 12788 Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711. The phone number for the THECB's Division of Student Services is (512) 483-6340. Further requirement information can be obtained through the THECB. The first selection of loan repayment recipients is expected to occur in the Spring of 1991. Loan repayment applications will be available this fall.

Nursing students may qualify for scholarships ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000 if they are enrolled at least half-time in an accredited program in an institution of higher education leading to licensure as a registered nurse or to a graduate degree in nursing.

The Scholarship Program for Ethnic Minorities in Professional Nursing will award up to \$2,000 for those recipients attending associate degree nursing programs and up to \$3,000 for those recipients attending bachelor's or higher degree nursing programs.

The Scholarship Program for LVNs Becoming Professional Nurses will award a maximum of \$1,500 for recipients in associate degree nursing programs and a maximum of \$2,500 for recipients attending bachelor's or higher degree nursing programs.

Through the Scholarship Program for Rural Professional Nursing Students, a recipient may receive a maximum of \$1,500 if attending an associate degree nursing program and a maximum of \$2,500 if attending a bachelor's or higher nursing degree program.

The financial aid office of the institution you are attending should be able to provide an application and further requirement information for any of the above programs. It is anticipated that these scholarships will be awarded in the summer of 1990.

The Matching Fund Employment Program for Professional Nursing Students will offer loans of \$2,000 to \$3,000 to its recipients. Loans will be cancelled for recipients who work for participating for-profit and nonprofit employers while enrolled in school and for a minimum of 12 months after completing their studies. Recipients who fail to complete their nursing education or to fulfill their employment obligations will be required to repay the loan, plus interest and other charges. An application and other requirement information, including the application deadline, can be obtained through the financial aid office of the college you attend.

LOAN PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN RURAL AREAS

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) recently announced the implementation of the Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition and Forgiveness Loan Program (ORSRP). The purpose of this program is to encourage students in rural areas to become health professionals and provide health services in rural Texas. ORSRP is for Texas residents who are either a high school student; a high-school graduate; a GED recipient; or a student in the last year of post-secondary education prior to entering a health professions program.

To become an outstanding scholar, a student must be nominated by his or her community for competition with other students nominated by their Texas communities. In return for financial support for the student's education in a health-related field, the outstanding rural scholar must pledge to return to the sponsoring community and provide health services there.

Names of student nominees may also be submitted for competition for state-sponsored forgiveness loans. Top-ranking students will be awarded forgiveness loans.

Nominations for the ORSRP are due at the THECB by October 15, 1990. Further information regarding qualifications and regulations can be obtained by calling (512) 483-6340 or writing the Division of Student Services, THECB, Box 12788, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

NOTICE TO NON-PAYING RECIPIENTS

"All units of state government and all local political subdivisions which expend appropriated state funds to publish periodicals on quarterly intervals or more frequently than quarterly intervals at no charge shall insert annually in such periodicals a notice, in three consecutive issues, indicating that anyone desiring to continue to receive the publication must so indicate in writing. The agency shall furnish future publications only to those persons requesting." This is our third notice. This quarterly newsletter is sent to directors of nursing service, schools of nursing, state boards of nursing and employers of registered nurses without charge. If you are in one of these categories and wish to continue to receive the "Report From the Board of Nurse Examiners," then send a postcard with your name, title and address.

PRACTICE RELATED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Board receives numerous calls and letters regarding practice issues. In this column, Cady Crismon, MSN, RN, responds to frequently asked questions.

Q: Are there any statutes or Board rules which regulate the nurse/patient ratio in ICU, OB or other areas?

A: No, there is no law or rule which stipulates a specific nurse/patient ratio. With the variations in patient acuity, skill mix of nursing personnel, unit floor plans and many other factors, it would not be feasible to mandate a nurse/patient ratio.

Q: I read the recent position statement on the administration of medications via the epidural route for the purpose of pain control. We are considering making this method of pain control available to appropriate patients in our facility. Does the Board have any information it could provide to assist us in developing our policies and procedures?

A: Yes, there are broad guidelines available which should assist you. These may be obtained by writing to the Board's office. Please note on the envelope "Attention: Epidural Guidelines."

Q: I work in a minor emergency center. I frequently work with one physician who I feel is very unsafe and who often fails to provide adequate care. I have placed my concerns in writing and have submitted documentation to my nursing supervisor as well as to the administrator of the center, yet no action has been taken. I am very concerned about the unsafe care being provided by this physician. What should I do?

A: Contact the Board of Medical Examiners at P.O. Box 13562; Austin, Texas 78711; (512) 452-1078. They will advise you on how to file a confidential complaint.

Q: As a nursing school faculty member, am I required by law to co-sign all documentation entered by my students on the patient's medical record?

A: No, there is no statute or Board rule which requires faculty to co-sign student entries. A co-signature indicates the faculty member observed or participated in all the activities the student is documenting. Since it is unlikely that the faculty member is present with all students for all activities, we do not advise faculty to co-sign entries. Faculty should review those entries the student plans to make to assure accuracy and clarity. When the faculty member does assist or observe the student, the faculty member may certainly wish to record or co-sign the student's entry on that particular activity.

If you have a practice related question that you would like to have us respond to through the Board's newsletter, send your question to:

Cady Crismon, MSN, RN
Board of Nurse Examiners
Box 140466
Austin, Texas 78714

THE USE OF PROTOCOLS IN ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE

The Board requires that Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) managing medical aspects of care use protocols/policies which provide medical authority for those aspects of care. These protocols/policies must be jointly "agreed upon and signed by the ANP and the physician, reviewed and signed at least annually, and maintained in the practice setting of the ANP" (Rule 221.1 of the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice). The Board recommends no particular format for these protocols/policies. The practice of the individual ANP and the practice setting will determine the necessary elements of the protocol needed to facilitate the provision of quality health care.

The protocol/policy need not address nursing aspects of care, such as the nursing assessments, but must address medical aspects of care such as the ordering of medications. The R.N. who initiates a protocol may select specific tasks or functions that are within the scope of the protocol. The selection of such tasks or functions for patient management constitutes a nursing decision that may be carried out by another Registered Nurse. The nurse who makes a selection from the protocol is responsible for its correctness and appropriateness. The nurse who carries out the order remains responsible and accountable for her/his actions the same as she/he would be in the carrying out of a physician order.

The protocol/policy gives the ANP the authorization to manage medical aspects of care. It serves as the source of that authorization, and, thus, the source of the order. Various resources in the literature are available to assist the ANP in writing protocols/policies. The Board does not recommend any particular resource, but suggests that some state and national organizations representing advanced nurse practitioners may be able to provide assistance.

THE LEGAL EAGLE

In each issue of the Board's newsletter, Joan Stewart, attorney for the Board of Nurse Examiners, will be responding to questions regarding the Nurse Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and any other legal issues.

If you have a question you would like to ask Joan Stewart, the Board's "Legal Eagle," then send your question to:

Joan Stewart, Attorney
Board of Nurse Examiners
Box 140466
Austin, Texas 78714

The following are some questions that the Legal Eagle wishes to respond to:

Dear Legal Eagle:

I have a simple question. Yes or no, can a registered nurse pronounce a patient dead?

**Signed,
I Don't Know**

Dear I Don't Know:

The answer is really yes and no. This simple question does not have a simple answer. The Health and Safety Code is the law that has been enacted regarding the pronouncement of death. Section 671.001 of the Code states that:

"(a) A person is dead when, according to ordinary standards of medical practice, there is irreversible cessation of the person's spontaneous respiratory and circulatory functions.

(b) If artificial means of support preclude a determination that a person's spontaneous respiratory and circulatory functions have ceased, the person is dead when, in the announced opinion of a physician, according to ordinary standards of medical practice, there is irreversible cessation of all spontaneous brain function. Death occurs when the relevant functions cease."

Before we complete our analysis we need to examine two additional factors. First, Section 671.002 states that:

"A physician who determines death in accordance with section 671.001(b) is not liable for civil damages or subject to criminal prosecution for the physician's actions or the actions of others based on the determination of death. (emphasis added.)

Second, in 1989, the legislature "killed" a bill that would have specifically allowed registered nurses to pronounce patients dead.

Section 671.001(a) does not limit who can or cannot pronounce a patient dead. However, because the legislature clearly expressed its intent to prohibit RNs from pronouncing patients dead, and because the code only extends the limitation of liability to the physician, the Board does not advise or recommend that registered nurses pronounce patients dead.

Dear Legal Eagle:

Can a physician pronounce a hospitalized patient's death via telephone based on telephone communication from an RN who has assessed the patient and relays the information (i.e., no pulse, no respirations, no blood pressure, pupils fixed and dilated, etc)?

**Signed
Morticia Adams**

Dear Morticia:

Yes. The physician is making a diagnosis/decision based on a nursing assessment.

Dear Legal Eagle:

Would the response to the question above be different in other care settings such as the patient's residence?

**Signed
Morticia Again**

Dear Morticia:

No. The response to this question is not dependent on the care setting.

UPDATE ON LIMITED PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONERS

House Bill 18, passed by the 71st Legislature (1989), required the Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE) to determine the educational requirements of and issue identification numbers to registered nurses eligible for limited prescriptive authority in certain medically underserved areas. Limited prescriptive authority simply means that the nurse can initiate prescriptions prescribed by the physician by filling in the appropriate information on the prescription form under protocols (for more information on protocols, see article, "The Use of Protocols in Advanced Nursing Practice").

Prescriptive Authority Application

Eligible Clinical Sites

There has been some confusion about which work sites are eligible for limited prescriptive authority. The clinical sites where ANPs may use prescriptive authority are specifically defined in Rule 221, Advanced Nurse Practitioners. In order to be approved to carry out prescription drug orders, the ANP must function at an appropriate clinical site. To determine if the clinical site is appropriate for carrying out prescription drug orders, an ANP can contact the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of State Health Data and Policy Analysis at (512) 458-7344.

Progress With Application Approval

The BNE began approving ANPs for prescriptive authority following the publication of emergency rules in February, 1990. There have been over 60 ANPs approved and issued identification numbers to utilize prescription drug orders as defined by House Bill 18. The Board has put this data on its VIPS computerized telephone information system to allow pharmacists and other interested parties to verify ANP approval 24 hours a day. To access VIPS, dial (512) 835-4880 and wait for the command to enter the ANP's social security number or prescription identification number.

The Board of Medical Examiners' Proposed Rules

The Board of Medical Examiners (BME) was required by House Bill 18 to establish any specialized education and training a physician's assistant (PA) must have to carry out prescription drug orders and issue an identification number to those PAs who are approved. The BME published proposed rules relating to House Bill 18 on April 13, 1990. Following public testimony at a hearing on May 18, 1990, the BME withdrew these rules. An advisory committee has been appointed by the BME to make recommendations regarding the content of the rules. The advisory committee met on July 28, 1990.

ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONERS: WHY DO WE NEED BOARD APPROVAL?

Registered Nurses are required by the Board's rules to have the approval of the Board to use the titles of Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) or to hold themselves out to be ANPs (Rule 221.5(d) of the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice.) The titles include those under the categories of Nurse Anesthetist, Nurse Midwife, Nurse Practitioner, and Clinical Nurse Specialist.

Why does the Board need to approve ANPs? The Board's mission is to protect and promote the welfare of the people of Texas. To that end, the Board adopted these rules in 1980 to provide assurance to the public that those who held themselves out to be ANPs met certain educational standards.

In order to be approved, the RN must have graduated from a post-basic program of study appropriate to the area of practice which meets the Board's criteria [Rule 221.2(a)]. If the RN is certified by a national organization recognized by the Board or if the educational program is accredited by the Board, the need to review transcripts and course descriptions is waived. The program length may include a supervised, evaluated preceptorship.

As employers, insurance carriers, Medicare surveyors, and individual ANPs have become more aware of the Board's requirements for ANPs, there has been an increase in the numbers of ANP applications received by the Board. The Board staff is attempting to review these applications as quickly as possible. If you wish to apply for Board approval as an ANP, you may request an application from the Board office in writing or call (512) 835-8650. Mark all correspondence "ATTN: ANP." Photocopies of the application will not be accepted. Please feel free to contact Kathy Thomas, M.N., R.N., C.P.N.P., Nursing Consultant, at the Board's office if you have specific questions or concerns.

EXAMINATION DATES

The National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) will be held in Austin, Galveston, and Fort Worth on the following dates:

1991: February 5-6 (T-W) and July 9-10 (T-W)

HOW TO REPORT A REGISTERED NURSE TO THE BOARD

Article 4525a of the Nurse Practice Act requires Registered Nurses, employers of nurses, as well as other entities, to report to the BNE any RN who has exposed or is likely to expose a patient or other person unnecessarily to a risk of harm as a result of: (1) unprofessional conduct, (2) failure to care adequately for a patient, (3) failure to conform to the minimum standards of professional nursing practice, or (4) impaired status.*

Reporting forms are available through the BNE, although it is not necessary to have a form in order to report. The following information should be included when reporting a nurse:

1. RN license number or social security number.
2. Correct spelling of the RN's name.
3. Date(s) of the incident(s).
4. Brief, factual description of the incident(s).
5. Were any witnesses present? (yes or no only, no names).
6. Copy of the Peer Review Report (if you are an employer of 10 or more nurses).

The BNE is obligated by law to protect the confidentiality of the complainant. Reports should be typed, in order to further protect the identity of the person submitting the report, and names and/or titles of other individuals should not be used when describing the incident(s). All reports should be signed by the person submitting the report, and include an address and/or phone number where he/she can be reached for additional information.

If you need additional information or have questions about your obligation to report, you may contact the Department of Practice and Compliance at (512) 835-8686.

* An impaired nurse may be reported to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Impaired Nurses (TPAPIN) in lieu of being reported to the BNE.

THE BOARD PUBLISHES

Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice (April, 1990 Revision) - Tax Exempt: \$3.50 With Tax: \$3.78; Nurse Practice Act - Tax Exempt: .50 With Tax: .54; Report From the Board of Nurse Examiners (Per Year) - Tax Exempt: \$2.50 With Tax: \$2.70.

Send check or money order (include 8% sales tax with total bill for sales tax) to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners. You must supply number if you are tax exempt.

WARNING/ALERT: NURSE IMPOSTORS

WILLIE W. DUTHU

Willie W. Duthu applied for employment as a registered nurse at a Dallas hospital in January, 1990. He presented Oklahoma RN license number R0027156. The hospital discovered, upon verification, that the number did not belong to Mr. Duthu. The sheriff's department was notified, but Mr. Duthu did not show up for a follow-up interview. During December, 1989, Mr. Duthu had presented an application for employment as an RN to another facility in the Dallas area, and was hired. Mr. Duthu used Texas RN numbers 552888 and 556389. When the hospital attempted to verify the license, they were informed that Mr. Duthu was not licensed in Texas to practice professional nursing, and that the numbers he had provided belonged to someone else. The BNE is pursuing legal action through the local authorities.

TONI STRINGFELLOW

Toni Stringfellow was employed as an RN with a San Antonio temporary nursing agency in May, 1988. Ms. Stringfellow presented RN license number 510625. Ms. Stringfellow worked as an RN until June, 1989. A San Antonio hospital contacted the agency, informing them that Ms. Stringfellow did not hold a valid license. The agency verified with the BNE that Ms. Stringfellow does not hold a license to practice professional nursing in Texas. Ms. Stringfellow was terminated from her employment. The BNE is pursuing legal action through the local authorities.

CATALINA DIAZ MEJIA

(a.k.a. OLGA MEJIA, CATHIE PIER)

Catalina Mejia obtained a nursing position at an industrial firm in El Paso, through the use of a fraudulent nursing diploma, for approximately two months. A complaint was filed with the El Paso police department.

If you have any knowledge or information regarding the employment practices of these individuals, please contact the Board's Department of Practice and Compliance immediately, at 512-835-8686.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION - MAY, 1990

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>VIOLATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
REVOKE			
Victoria Baci	443844	4525b	5-17-90
Maria M. Canas	532866	4525a(1)(11)	5-17-90
George W. Ford	513282	4525a(9)	5-17-90
William Booth Haynie	460449	4525a(3)	5-16-90
Tuula Orvokki Markelin	426546	4525a(7)	5-17-90
Michael G. Morgan	522278	4525b	5-16-90
Robert D. Phillips	513016	4525a(3)(9)	5-16-90
Rhonda Lee Quillin	238758	4525a(9)	5-17-90
Hal Richard Rachman	232665	4525a(7)	5-17-90
Marilynn Kay Spence	234481	4525a(3)	5-17-90
Carla K. Teafatiller	518339	4525a(3)	5-16-90
Karen S. Vandiver	245569	4525b	5-16-90
SUSPEND AND PROBATE			
Virginia Anderson	242627	4525a(9)(11)	5-16-90
Susan E. Pugh	522422	4525a(3)	5-16-90
Debra Matteson Wood	522777	4525a(8)	5-16-90
REPRIMAND			
Lilla O.M. Hagan	018745	@	5-16-90
Cheryl Ann Neyland	445653	@	5-16-90
Marcus Blaine Snodgrass	255246	@	5-16-90
REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS			
Judy M. Adrian	459335	4525a(11)	5-16-90
Betty S. Carney	215967	*	5-16-90
Izola Dixon Floyd	455993	@	5-16-90
Carol Jane Henderson	231992	@	5-16-90
Ruth M. Walker Roberts	406697	@	5-16-90
Bonnie Ann Sajjadi	534620	@	5-16-90
Janell Sample	544826	@	5-16-90
Susan Elizabeth Schmidt	455093	*	5-16-90
Donna Louise Stewart	457732	@	5-16-90
Michelle Ann Thelen	533759	@	5-16-90
REINSTATE WITH STIPULATIONS			
Wilma J. Moore Elliott	222776		5-16-90
Lenore Louise Gribble	516872		5-16-90
Ronald Lee Kopetjka	248151		5-16-90
Candice A. Utley (Sanchez-Leal)	506075		5-16-90
WARNING			
Jo Ann Boswell	245590	*	5-16-90

Legend:

* Consent Order
 @ Agreed Order

DEBITS

As of June 30, 1990, the following nurses appear on the records of the Board of Nurse Examiners as debits for failure to respond to notices of returned checks. Should any of these nurses be in your employ or seek employment with your agency/institution, please contact the Board's office.

If any of these nurses are practicing in Texas as a Registered Nurse, they are in violation of the Nurse Practice Act and should be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Nurse Examiners.

NAME	LICENSE # OR PERMIT #
Clark, Victoria	Permit 050398
Conti, Angela	License 552231
Craft, Betty	License 546665
Dennis, Patricia	License 503975
Felkins, Bettye	License 557452
Filler, Marci Ann	License 553220
Gadeski, Leanne	License 552634
Glisson, James	License 239549
Goodwin, Sandra	License 554519
Grant, Vanessa	License 543975
Jenkins, Victor	License 517158
Jones, Cherie	License 241063
Jones, Gwendolyn	Permit 063362
Kuntz, Eileen	License 514331
Masters, Mary	License 550218
Milner, Ida	License 222100
Ming, Joan	License 446071
O'Connell, Anna	Permit 057239
Pangilinan, Julie	License 445792
Reilly, Paula	License 538479
Righton, Kathleen	License 557735
Robinson, Lynn	License 518008
Rosko, Lisa Marie	License 538707
Sanderson, Brenda	License 538111
Shaffer, Bridget	License 553409
Simbulan, Perpetua	License 514868
Strouhal, Susan	License 557026
Tucker, Sherry	Permit 058040
Vasquez, Emerald	License 207588
Zutell, Jean	Permit 057374

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY SERVICES ALERT

When a patient arrives at a hospital, you are required to perform an appropriate nursing assessment regarding the patient's status to determine whether or not an emergency medical condition exists. If an emergency condition exists, the patient must be treated and stabilized or transferred appropriately to another medical facility. If you do not at least offer to assess, treat, or stabilize a patient prior to sending him to another facility by ambulance or other means of transportation, you are violating federal and state laws, including the Nurse Practice Act. You must know and follow your hospital policy regarding transfers. This would include who to notify in your hospital administration if you are unable to obtain a physician or a receiving hospital. Contact your hospital administrator for inservice education on the federal and state transfer laws and your hospital policy. For questions regarding the Nurse Practice Act, contact the Board of Nurse Examiners' office at (512) 835-8686.

PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE
RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL NURSE EDUCATION, LICENSURE AND PRACTICE - A Nurse Practice Act is included with the purchase of the Rules and Regulations.	_____	\$3.50
EXCERPTS FROM VERNON'S CIVIL STATUTES FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS - Governing examination, registration, and disciplinary proceedings of registered nurses - Nurse Practice Act	_____	\$5.00
REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS - (quarterly newsletter)	_____	\$2.50
<p>Include 8% sales tax for the total amount. (Please supply number if tax exempt.) Mail this form with the remittance to the board's office. Prepayment of all orders is required.</p>		
Name _____		
Address _____		

Tax Exempt Number _____		
Amount of Order _____		
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Total Amount _____		
Date Publication Mailed _____		

EVALUATION SURVEY REPORT AVAILABLE

The Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE) is pleased to announce that the evaluation of the results of the survey on implementation of mandatory reporting, peer review, and the Board's Rules for the Delegation of Nursing Tasks to Unlicensed Personnel are now available. The report indicates that the evaluation did not uncover any serious problems with the implementation of the Board's quality assurance mechanisms. The evaluation report provides a detailed description of mandatory reporting, peer review, and the Delegation Rules as implemented by the survey respondents.

The evaluation report can be purchased from the BNE for \$15.00 plus 8% tax. To order your copy, complete the order form below, and make your check or money order payable to the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. Mail your order form plus your check or money order to the Board of Nurse Examiners, ATTN: W. Francik; P.O. Box 140466; Austin, TX 78714. After your order is processed, you will receive the report in 2 to 3 weeks.

If you need further information about ordering the report, please contact Wendy Francik, BNE research assistant, at 512-835-8674.

(mail in bottom portion only)

I have enclosed a check or money order made out to the Board of Nurse Examiners for \$16.20 (\$15.00 + \$1.20 tax) for the evaluation survey report.

Mail to:

(Name)

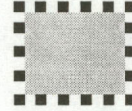
(Mailing Address)

()

(Phone Number)

Please notify the Board

If your NAME has changed, submit a copy of the name change document (i.e., marriage license, court order, or divorce decree that reflects change of name).



If your ADDRESS has changed, submit the new address in writing.

With all correspondence include:

1. RN license number, date of birth, and social security number.
2. Complete name including maiden name.
3. Complete address with zip code.
4. County and zip code of your place of employment.

Newsletter Committee: Judy Bryce, Andrea Herman, Tim Houston, Aileen Kishi, Laura Miner

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