

# RN UPDATE



A Quarterly Publication of the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas

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**Editor's Note:** The Board of Nurse Examiners is committed to assisting the state and nation in responding to catastrophic events such as the attack on the World Trade Center. The article below has been prepared by guest contributors and responds to recommendations put forward in the Plan of Action for Texas prepared by the Governor's Task Force on Homeland Security.

## Ready Texas Nurses Emergency Response System

By Marilyn Pattillo, PhD, RN, Texas Nurses Association Vice President and  
Clair Jordan, MSN, RN, Texas Nurses Association Executive Director

In response to a heightened national focus on preparedness for acts of terrorism and potential homeland threats, Governor Rick Perry formed the Governor's Task Force on Homeland Security in October of 2001 to explore a statewide plan of action for Texas. The Texas Nurses Association was invited to represent nursing in that effort. The task force was charged with:

- Assuring preparedness to respond to threats
- Facilitating coordination among federal, state and local agencies
- Assessing the ability of state and local government agencies to respond to threats and effectively provide victims assistance
- Providing recommendations on how to improve Texas's ability to detect and deter and coordinate responses to any terrorist events.

The Work Group on Health and Bioterrorism was one of three subcommittees, and was specifically charged with assessing the medical and public health preparedness and adequacy of response mechanisms in Texas and recommending resources or activities. A number of health care organizations including Texas Nurses Association, Texas Medical Association and Texas Hospital Association presented expert input to the Work Group.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the first recommendations to come from the Work Group was that the Governor establish a permanent coordinating council composed of both public and private sector representation from leading health service organizations to develop a plan for early detection and streamlining responses to bioterrorism that avoids duplication of efforts and

establishes well defined duties, responsibility and jurisdictional authority. (See Additional Recommendations to the Governor on pg. 4).

The Texas Nurses Association became a public partner of this group, prepared nursing's area of responsibility and submitted a plan that was adopted by the Coordinating Council and ultimately by the Governor on January 31, 2002. That plan provides for a nurse emergency response system called Ready Texas Nurses Emergency Response System (Ready Texas Nurses) to support Texas citizens in times of crisis and disaster. The Ready Texas Nurses special focus areas will be:

- **Education** – to assess and provide through partnerships, education for the nursing workforce to serve effectively in an emergency situation. Conversations with the Red Cross have commenced to provide education across the state.

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## Proposed and Adopted Rules



At the January 2002 meeting of the Board of Nurse Examiners, the Board took the following actions:

- \* adopted amendments to 22 TAC §§216.3, relating to Continuing Education Requirements for Hepatitis C. New Rule §216.3 amendments became effective March 13, 2002. See article on pg. 7 for more information.
- \* proposed the repeal of current 22 TAC §§217.17, relating to Minimum Procedural Standards During Peer Review. §217.17 moved to new 22 TAC §§217.19. Submitted to *Texas Register* for public comments on February 21, 2002. Earliest possible date of adoption: April 7, 2002.
- \* proposed new 22 TAC §§217.19, relating to Incident Based Peer Review, and new 22 TAC §§217.20, relating to Safe Harbor Peer Review for RNs. Submitted to *Texas Register* for public comments on February 21, 2002. Earliest possible date of adoption: April 7, 2002.
- \* adopted 22 TAC §§217.18, relating to Registered Nurse First Assistants. New Rule §217.18 became effective March 13, 2002.
- \* adopted amendments to 22 TAC §§221.4, relating to Advanced Practice Nurses and the requirement that they obtain national certification in the appropriate advanced role and specialty area. New Rule §221.4 amendments became effective March 14, 2002.
- \* adopted 22 TAC §§222.4, relating to Minimum Standards for Carrying Out or Signing Prescriptions. Changes refer APNs to appropriate sections of the Texas Pharmacy Act relating to generic substitution. New Rule 222.4 is effective March 6, 2002.

The Board also:

- \* adopted new 22 TAC §§211 concerning General Provisions of the Board. A review of the rule was conducted and revisions were made for clarification and simplification as required by rule review statutes. New Rule 211 is effective March 31, 2002.
- \* adopted emergency amendment to 22 TAC § 223.1, concerning Fees. The fees are necessary to raise revenue and to cover statutorily requisite online fees for RN and APN renewals. The adopted fees include the present fees posted on the BNE website and a \$2 increase each for RN and APN online renewals. Emergency rule effective March 12, 2002 and open to discussion at the April 2002 BNE Board meeting.

For more information on rules mentioned above, refer to the *Texas Register* via the Office of the Secretary of State for the State of Texas located at <http://lamb.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.html>. Comments should be addressed to: Board of Nurse Examiners, P.O. Box 430, Austin, Texas 78767-0430.



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## Change in Prescription Format for Advanced Practice Nurses with Limited Prescriptive Authority

by Jolene Zych, MS, RNC, WHCNP

Advanced practice nurses with limited prescriptive authority should be aware that there will be a change in the Texas State Board of Pharmacy's (TSBP's) rule relating to generic substitution. SB 768, passed by the 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, required that the TSBP adopt rules relating to the manner in which practitioners indicate dispensing instructions regarding generic substitution on written prescriptions. The current rule (22 TAC §309) requires two signature lines with appropriate dispensing instructions under each line. Beginning June 1, 2002, the two signature line format will be eliminated. The new rule will require a practitioner to indicate "brand necessary" or "brand medically necessary" in the practitioner's own handwriting in order to prohibit generic substitution on a written prescription. Other changes were made concerning prescription format, and dispensing directives issued for verbal and electronic prescription drug orders. It is strongly recommended that advanced practice nurses with limited prescriptive authority review the new requirements outlined in Chapter 309 of the TSBP's Rules. Currently, the new rule is available on the *Texas Register's* web site at <http://lamb.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.html>. The rule appeared in the March 8, 2002 issue under the section on "Adopted Rules."

### RNFA Rule Adopted

At the January 2002 meeting, the Board voted to adopt an amendment to Rule 217 by adding Section 217.18, relating to registered nurse first assistants (RNFAs). HB 803, passed in the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, amends the Nursing Practice Act by adding Section 301.1525. The section defines a "nurse first assistant" as a registered nurse who is certified in perioperative nursing by an organization recognized by the Board and has completed a nurse first assistant program approved by an organization recognized by the Board. The new section grants the Board authority to develop rules relating to RNFAs. The new rule only applies to RNs who are functioning in the first assistant role. It does not apply to certified surgical technologists or certified first assistants.

Section 217.18 establishes a regulatory definition of registered nurse first assistant consistent with Section 301.1525. As such, it defines "nurse first assistant" as a registered nurse who is certified in perioperative nursing by an organization recognized by the Board and has completed a nurse first assistant program approved by an organization recognized by the Board. The language in the adopted rule is exactly as it appears in Section 301.1525 of the Nursing Practice Act. All RNFAs must hold national certification as a perioperative nurse (CNOR) from the Certification Board Perioperative Nursing (CBPN). Currently, the CBPN is the only organization directly involved in reviewing RNFA education programs. CBPN reviews programs that prepare RNs for the first assisting role and includes programs that meet established criteria on its list of acceptable programs for individuals who desire to sit for the CRNFA certification exam. CBPN has written program acceptance criteria and requires programs to demonstrate compliance through a written application process for initial acceptance. They have also adopted a process for verifying ongoing compliance with acceptance criteria. Therefore, the Board adopted a policy that those RNFAs who have completed a program that is included in CBPN's list of acceptable programs have met the requirement for completion of a "nurse first assistant program approved by an organization recognized by the Board." New Section 217.18 also recognizes that current certification by the Certification Board Perioperative Nursing as a registered nurse first assistant (CRNFA) may be accepted in lieu of completing a first assistant program approved by an organization recognized by the Board. Additionally, the new rule creates a registry for those RNFAs who meet the criteria, reiterates the minimum standards required for all registered nurses practicing in the first assistant role, and recognizes AORN standards for first assisting.

RNs who elect to first assist must meet the requirements established by Section 301.1525 of the Nursing Practice Act and Rule 217.18. RNs who do not meet these requirements may continue to function in either the scrub or circulating roles, but they may not function as first assistants. The new rule may be reviewed on the Board's web site at [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us).

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**Ready Texas Nurses Emergency Response System** - continued from page 1

- **Communication** – to maintain a communication system with the nursing profession during emergency situations utilizing web based, online, e-mail, fax and mail. The communications will maintain clinical best practice updates; present information on early detection or symptoms of nuclear, biological or chemical terrorism and reporting directions; target messages directed toward nurse leadership in inpatient hospital settings, outpatient hospital care, school health, clinics, home health and long-term care facilities; and recruit and process volunteers.
- **Management of Nursing Workforce** – Ready Texas Nurses will provide management of the nursing workforce during emergency situations in the following ways:
  1. Texas Nurses Association will maintain a database of nurses who have registered with the Ready Texas Nurses data bank, had disaster training and had credentials cleared, and will maintain current contact information. TNA can activate this system in response to the needs of the Texas Department of Health (TDH).
  2. Toll-free telephone numbers will be used to accept and filter spontaneous nurse volunteers from both within Texas and out-of-state, and assign them as needed and as deemed appropriate by TDH.
  3. The Ready Texas Nurses can alert key portions of the entire nurse workforce as certain skills are identified and required, i.e., the need for nurses who are knowledgeable and skilled in immunization.

Nurses who want to become part of the Ready Texas Nurses Emergency Response System can log on to [www.texasnurses.org](http://www.texasnurses.org), after April 1, 2002, click the Ready Texas Nurses logo and update their profile. They can also complete the questionnaire on the following page, detach the form from the *RN Update* and mail it to the address on the back of the form.

**SITUATION ASSUMPTIONS**

- Ready Texas Nurses will be activated by appropriate Texas Department of Health contacts to the TNA Executive Director, Clair Jordan, MSN, RN.
- Ready Texas Nurses will be activated when the local supply of nurses is insufficient to meet the depth and breadth of the emergency.
- Nurses employed or on staff at an acute care hospital will first fulfill the responsibilities of their institution disaster plan before volunteering.
- Nurses employed in a local, county or state public health system will first fulfill the responsibilities of their entity before volunteering.

**Additional Recommendations to the Governor**

Other recommendations to the Governor by the Work Group on Health and Bioterrorism in response to his charges to the Task Force on Homeland Security include:

- Requesting all health licensing organizations and agencies to require licensees to provide business fax numbers and e-mail addresses if available when completing license and registration forms.
- Requesting all health licensing organizations and agencies require licensees to attend at least one hour each year of continuing education on responding to the consequences of an incident of terrorism and reporting of medical events.
- Directing TDH to work in conjunction with the Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management and the Centers for Disease Control to review and update plans for quarantine, hospitalization and evacuation procedures in the event of a terrorist attack with due regard to civil liberties.
- Directing TDH to develop a statewide plan that could include public and private health resources to administer mass vaccinations and chemoprophylaxes should they be required.

**Editor's Note**

**Additional information on the Task Force and related activities by the Governor's Office may be located at <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/>. The Homeland Security Task Force Report may be read in its entirety at <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/homelandsecurity/index.htm>**

**☐ Yes! I want to be a part of the Ready Texas Nurses Emergency Response System**

In cooperation with the Board of Nurse Examiners an initial databank has been established with basic information. Nurses who have Internet access are requested to visit [www.texasnurses.org](http://www.texasnurses.org) and update their Ready Texas Nurses profile to ensure expediency and accuracy – however, if you do not have Internet access please complete the following information and return it to the address on the back of the page.

**CORE INFORMATION – be sure to print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ RN License #: \_\_\_\_\_ Designation/Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Fax: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Business Fax: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Pager: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Daytime Contact Method (rank)\*:**

1. Home Phone \_\_\_\_ 2. Work Phone \_\_\_\_ 3. Cell Phone \_\_\_\_ 4. Pager \_\_\_\_ 5. E-mail \_\_\_\_  
6. Alternate E-mail \_\_\_\_ \*Rank by preference, with 1 being the 1<sup>st</sup> contact preference.

**Night/Weekend Contact Method (rank)\*:**

1. Home Phone \_\_\_\_ 2. Work Phone \_\_\_\_ 3. Cell Phone \_\_\_\_ 4. Pager \_\_\_\_ 5. E-mail \_\_\_\_  
6. Alternate E-mail \_\_\_\_

**Languages Spoken Other Than English (circle):**

1. Arabic 2. Chinese 3. Japanese 4. Korean 5. Spanish 6. Vietnamese  
7. American Sign Language 8. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Training (circle):**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)     | 7. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)   |
| 2. Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)      | 8. Paramedic                            |
| 3. Pediatric Advanced Life support (PALS)   | 9. Red Cross Disaster Training          |
| 4. Neonatal Advanced Life Support (NALS)    | 10. Trauma Nurse Core Curriculum (TNCC) |
| 5. Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) | 11. Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) |
| 6. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)     |   |

**Military Service (circle):**

1. I have served in the active Military 2. I have served in the Military Reserve  
3. I have served in the National Guard 4. Does not apply If you circle one, two or three above, then:

Which branch of the service were you attached to: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Guard Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Clinical Expertise (circle):**

- |                       |                  |                       |                     |                       |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Adolescent         | 6. Comm. Disease | 11. Infection Control | 16. Oncology        | 21. Psych./Counseling |
| 2. Allergy/Immunology | 7. Dermatology   | 12. Intensive Care    | 17. Ophthalmology   | 22. Public Health     |
| 3. Burns              | 8. Emergency     | 13. Medical/Surgical  | 18. Orthopedics     | 23. Radiology         |
| 4. Cardiac            | 9. Geriatrics    | 14. Neonatal          | 19. Path./Forensics | 24. Rehabilitation    |
| 5. Chem. Dependency   | 10. Immunization | 15. Obstetrics        | 20. Pediatrics      | 25. Trauma            |

**Employment Setting (circle #):**

1. Hospital 2. School of Nursing 3. School/College Health 4. Long Term Care 5. Home Health  
6. Physician/Dentist Office 7. Community/Freestanding Clinic

**I can respond in the following area(s) (circle):**

1. Local Area 2. Statewide 3. Surrounding States 4. Nationwide 5. Worldwide

**I can be available within (circle):**

1. Less than 24 hours 2. 24-48 hours 3. 2-5 days 4. 1 week 5. 1-2 weeks 6. 30 days

**I can be away from home/work (circle):**

1. Less than 24 hours 2. 24-28 hours 3. 2-5 days 4. 1 week 5. 1-2 weeks 6. 30 days  
7. Indefinitely

---

FOLD HERE

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Ready Texas Nurses**  
**7600 Burnet Road, Suite 440,**  
**Austin, Texas 78757-1292**

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FOLD HERE

## Hepatitis C Continuing Education Required for License Renewal

### By Carol Marshall, MSN, RN

Senate Bill 338, Section 2, passed by the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, in part amended Subchapter G, Chapter 301, Occupations Code by adding Section 301.304 to the Nursing Practice Act (NPA) related to Hepatitis C continuing education for nurses. House Bill 2650 is the companion bill implementing the same requirement. Subsequent to this legislative action, Rule §216.3 was revised to add this **one-time** Hepatitis C continuing education requirement [§216.3(4)].

As discussed in the January 2002 *RN Update*, RNs in the state of Texas who have licensure renewal dates that fall between 6/1/2002 and 6/1/2004 must acquire at least 2 contact hours of continuing education in Hepatitis C when renewing the license between 6/1/2002-6/1/2004. For both RN's and RN's with advanced practice (APN) recognition from the Board, this requirement may be met through completion of either Type I or Type II approved continuing education activities. The two hour requirement counts as part of the minimum 20 hours of continuing education required of all RNs each biennium. The complete text of the new sections in the Nursing Practice Act and Board Rules may be viewed on the website at [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us).

**How do I know when to complete the 2-hour Hepatitis C continuing education in order to meet the statutory and rule requirement?** The answer depends on when the RN is due to renew his/her license. RNs renewing their license between June 2002 and June 2004 must complete the Hepatitis C requirement prior to the RN's respective renewal date. For instance, RNs renewing their licenses in June 2002 must obtain their 20 hours of CE in the interval between June 2000 through June 2002, therefore are required to obtain 2 hours of Hepatitis C continuing education prior to submitting their June 2002 renewal to the BNE. Nurses renewing prior to June 2, 2002 will have until the next renewal cycle to meet this requirement, i.e., a May 31, 2002 renewal may have until May of 2004 to obtain the two hours of Hepatitis C continuing education.

Additional information on Continuing Education for nurses may be obtained through the BNE web site at [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us). Rule 216, Continuing Education (CE) elaborates on CE requirements, and a CE Brochure with similar information is also available under the "Files and Downloads" heading on the BNE home page. The BNE does not offer any Hepatitis C continuing education. Standard providers of nursing continuing education (either Type I or Type II) may be utilized to access acceptable CE offerings. Some organizations that offer Hepatitis C continuing education include the Center for Disease Control at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c\\_training/edu/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c_training/edu/default.htm), the Texas Nurses Association at [www.texasnurses.org](http://www.texasnurses.org), or offerings listed through [www.springnet.com](http://www.springnet.com).



### Practice Questions & Answers

by Sandra Owen, MN, RN



#### Q: Who is authorized to use the title "Nurse"?

A: There are several requirements in the Nursing Practice Act related to who may be designated as a Registered Nurse (RN) or Graduate Nurse (GN). The use of these titles **or any** title which implies that a person is a licensed RN is limited to those that have been appropriately licensed by the Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE). Further, when engaging in the practice of professional nursing, the practitioner must also know and conform to the requirements in the Nursing Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice. These may be viewed in their entirety at the Board's web site at: [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us).

Sec. 301.351. Designations, of the Nursing Practice Act and Rule 217.10. Restrictions to Use of Designations for Registered Nurse specify that only those persons who hold a current valid license or GN authorization may use the above titles. (For information referring to advanced practice titles please refer to the January 2002 *RN Update*.) Any other person who utilizes these titles **or any** other designation which may tend to mislead or imply that the person is a licensed professional nurse may be subject to prosecution under applicable law. Imposters are a threat to the health and safety of the public. The public relies on the BNE to set and enforce standards of practice in order to ensure that

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## EDUCATION REPORT

By Sandra Owen, MN, RN



### **January 2002 Board Action**

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rates, continued Full Accreditation with Commendations for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Programs:**

Alvin Community College  
Blinn College  
Central Texas College  
Collin County Community College  
Del Mar at Coastal Bend (DEI)  
Howard College  
Navarro College  
Northeast Texas Community College  
Temple College  
Trinity Valley Community College

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rates, continued Full Accreditation with Commendations and Recommendations for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Programs:**

Angelo State University  
Austin Community College  
Tyler Junior College

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rates, continued Full Accreditation with Commendations and Requirements to be met for:**

**Diploma Programs:**

Baptist Health System

**Associate Degree Nursing Programs:**

Amarillo College  
El Centro College  
El Centro College at Brookhaven (DEI)  
Houston Baptist University  
Houston Community College  
Midland College  
San Antonio College at Kerrville (DEI)  
San Antonio College at Southwest Texas Border Areas (DEI)

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report, NCLEX-RN® pass rate and Survey Visit,**

**continued Full Accreditation with Commendations, Recommendations and Requirements to be met for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

San Jacinto College South

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rate, changed the Accreditation status from Warning to Conditional with Recommendations and Requirements to be met for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

Lamar State College at Orange

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rate, changed the Accreditation status from Full to Warning with Recommendation and Requirement to be met for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

Southwestern Adventist University

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rate, changed the Accreditation status from Initial to Full for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

St. Phillips College

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and NCLEX-RN® pass rate, changed the Accreditation status from Conditional to Full with Commendation for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

College of the Mainland

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and review of the NCLEX-RN® pass rate, continued Warning with Requirement to be met for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**

Odessa College

continued on next page



**EDUCATION REPORT**

- continued from previous page

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report and review of the NCLEX-RN® pass rate, changed the Accreditation status from Warning to Full with Requirement to be met for:**

**Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program:**  
West Texas A & M University

**Based on a review of the 2001 Annual Report, review of the NCLEX-RN® pass rate, and a Survey visit, continued Warning with Commendations, Recommendations, and Requirements to be met for:**

**Associate Degree Nursing Program:**  
Paris Junior College

**Practice Q & A**

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licensees are competent to practice safely and have met all applicable eligibility and licensing standards in Texas.

When you speak with someone on the phone and they identify themselves as a "nurse" do you really know who you are speaking to and do you really know if they are or are not appropriately licensed? In such circumstances it may be prudent to clarify if you are speaking to a licensed professional nurse. Registered Nurses are obligated to report the unauthorized practice of nursing to the Board [Rule 217.12(25)]. The reporting, investigation and prosecution of imposters can assist in ensuring that the health and welfare of the public is protected.

### **HPC Offers Toll-Free Number for Complaint Forms**

The Health Professions Council has a toll-free phone number for obtaining complaint forms to report inappropriate actions by Texas-licensed health professionals including Doctors, Physician Assistants, Therapists, RNs, and LVNs. The number is: **1-800-821-3205**.

### **VOLUNTEER FOR A PEER**

You can make a difference. "TPAPN saved my life." Become a part of nurses helping nurses by calling the Texas Peer Assistance Program for nurses at 1-800-288-5528.

**Based on a Site Visit Report and review of a Proposal, approved a Distance Education Initiative for:**

McLennan Community College in cooperation with Hill College - Johnston County

### **Texas Nurses Contribute to NCLEX-RN® Development**

The Board of Nurse Examiners is pleased to announce the selection of the following registered nurses as participants in the NCLEX-RN® test development process: Alice Lochman of San Marcos, Master Pool Reviewer Panel Alternate; Elizabeth Barrett of Uvalde and Dale Kelleher of Missouri City, Exam Item Reviewers; Anita Geoffrion of Denton, Examination Item Writer; and Chris Porter of Fort Worth served as Examination Item Reviewer Alternate. By contributing their expertise, these RNs assisted the National Council of State Boards of Nursing to insure the inclusion of NCLEX-RN® content which is current, accurate, practice related and appropriate for an entry level practitioner.

### **RNFA Rule - continued from page 3**

The Board does not have a list of tasks that are specific to either the scrub or RNFA roles. The Board understands that there are some tasks that are performed by nurses functioning in the scrub role that are included within the scope of practice for RNFAs, such as holding a retractor. When these tasks are properly delegated, the nurse functioning in the scrub role is not considered to be acting as a first assistant. Because scope of practice is dynamic in nature, developing lists of tasks could limit current and future scope of practice for RNs in the operating room who are not RNFAs. The nurse who is not a first assistant, however, must clearly be functioning in the scrub or circulating role only. Further information regarding the definition and scope of practice for the RNFA can be obtained from the following web site: <http://www.aorn.org/about/positions/rnfa.htm>. At this time, the registration process for RNFAs is being developed. Information will be forthcoming when available.

# IMPOSTOR WARNING

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

## TAMMY RENE CARNES

Tammy Rene Carnes applied for a position as a Registered Nurse with an OB/GYN physician's group in Houston, Texas on November 29, 2001. On December 3, 2001, the supervisor contacted the Board office to verify that Ms. Carnes had initiated the reciprocity process. She was told that no application had been received. The supervisor also contacted the California Board to verify licensure and was informed that Ms. Carnes has never held a license to practice in California. Ms. Carnes was not offered a position and the supervisor reported the information to the Board. The information regarding Ms. Carnes was referred to the Houston Police Department.



## BRENDAL CHRISTENEE KRAMER

a.k.a.: Brenda Christene Kramer

Brendal Christenee Kramer secured employment as a Scheduling Coordinator, with a hospital in Fort Worth, Texas on May 13, 2001. The position was an RN management position and required an RN license. Ms. Kramer told the facility that she was in the process of getting a Texas license and she claimed to have a current Tennessee license. The facility contacted the Board office after the supervisor became suspicious and began to question Ms. Kramer's credentials. The facility also contacted the Tennessee Board and found that Ms. Kramer has never been licensed to practice in the state of Tennessee. Ms. Kramer was terminated from employment on October 5, 2001 and a report was sent to the Board office. The information regarding the case was sent to the Fort Worth Police Department.



## TAMERA BOYD

Tamera Boyd secured employment as a Registered Nurse in January 2001, with an imaging and pain management center in Fort Worth, Texas. Ms. Boyd signed RN after her name and told her employer that she had received a Bachelor Degree in Nursing. The employer contacted the university and was not able to verify that Ms. Boyd graduated from a nursing program. The employer asked Ms. Boyd to bring in her license for verification and Ms. Boyd failed to do so. The company contacted the Board office to verify licensure and they were informed that Ms. Boyd is not licensed in Texas. Ms. Boyd was terminated from employment on March 5, 2001. The information regarding this case was referred to the Fort Worth Police Department.



## ROSE DIANE LEGG

Rose Dianne Legg was hired as a certified nurses aide by a nursing home in Friendswood, Texas. Two months after being hired she told the Director of Nursing that she had finished her nursing program and was now a registered nurse. Ms. Legg started signing RN after her name on some of the patients' medical records from October 2000 through December 2000. During a survey visit it was discovered that Ms. Legg was employed and signing RN after her name, however did not have a license to practice in the state of Texas. Ms. Legg had provided an RN license number belonging to someone else. The facility contacted the Board office and they were unable to verify licensure. The facility submitted a report to the Board.



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**IMPOSTOR WARNING** - continued**CAROL J. GOFF**

Carol J. Goff was employed as a Phlebotomist and Paternity Representative with a laboratory in Austin, Texas. Ms. Goff held herself out as a Registered Nurse to clients and presented business cards with RN after her name. Her duties included drawing blood from inmates for paternity testing.

**NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

*The following registered nurses had disciplinary action taken against their licenses. If you would like to receive additional information regarding the disciplinary action which has been imposed, please send your request to the Board of Nurse Examiners, Enforcement Division, P.O. Box 430, Austin, Texas, 78767-0430.*

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION</u>
Agrawal, Lilly Kutty	603803	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Arancibia, Emilia	532326	Fine w/Remedial Education	January 22, 2002
Bailey, Cynthia Eileen	240924	Suspended	February 12, 2002
Bakeman, Penny Elizabeth	654107	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Bass, Pamela J.	629307	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Bass, Mitzi Lucille	656477	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Bautista, Eduardo Valerio	621716	Reprimand w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Beatty, Nianne Hathhorn	577031	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Bell, Jimmie Mack	666356	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Benavides, Elvira	553790	Suspend/Probate	March 12, 2002
Biddle, Amy L.	537717	Warning	February 12, 2002
Bilz, June A.	245282	Remedial Education	January 16, 2002
Brewer, Kevin Ray	603874	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Broussard, Shannon L.	615256	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Bryan, Nancy Jean	459528	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Buckler, Mary F. Baker	215428	Remedial Education	January 23, 2002
Burmaster, Brenda Lee	577801	Reprimand w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Burrow, Richard D.	617978	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Carter, Edward Allen	600616	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Clark, Leisa A.	628694	Suspend/Probate	February 12, 2002
Clegg, Alice C.	422005	Reprimand w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Cromeens, John David	582010	Remedial Education	January 3, 2002
Crow, Jon David	656933	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Dean, Barbara Farley	451021	License Revoked	February 12, 2002
Delce, Tawana	657539	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Dickey, Joseph	625543	Reprimand w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Duncan, Norris	567605	Remedial Education	December 27, 2001
Dusatko, Cheryl Jo	504720	Fine w/Remedial Education	January 16, 2002
Ellis, Wendy Jane	605282	Fine w/Remedial Education	December 18, 2001
Elmore, Penny L.	501741	Reprimand w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Evans, Raymond C.	540183	Remedial Education	January 3, 2002
Feuge, Cynthia Kay	662152	Remedial Education	February 12, 2002
Fickey, Connie Lynn	562502	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Flores-Hildebrandt, Griselda	635740	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Forestello, Lorri Pundt	231737	Remedial Education	January 2, 2002
Fowler, Patricia Ann	606312	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Glynn, Pamela Faye	550334	Suspended	January 24, 2002
Goldsteen, Jill Susan	600983	Remedial Education	December 13, 2001
Goodwin, Pamela Gail	588985	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Gould, Charlotte F.	535953	Reprimand	January 24, 2002
Gray, Kathy J.	540383	Limited License	January 24, 2002

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**DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION</u>
Gray, Jeanine Lynne	594859	Remedial Education	January 2, 2002
Grosel, Anthony Louis	572042	Remedial Education	January 23, 2002
Guanajuato III, Felix	669812	Remedial Education	February 12, 2002
Hedberg, Dale Terry	462045	Warning	January 24, 2002
Hellums, Margaret	631439	Remedial Education	January 29, 2002
Hernandez, Ramona Sampang	645474	Suspend/Probate	February 12, 2002
Hodges, Betty Sue	606480	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Huckaby Jr., Winston	637367	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Hunkin, Jennifer May	462203	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Ingram, Sheryl Ann	445943	Warning	January 24, 2002
Jackson, James	242297	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Jackson, William	641311	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Johnson, Amy Jo	673987	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Kavitski, Juliann	632717	Warning	February 12, 2002
Kimble, Lloyd	656585	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Lake, Tammy Joyce	513168	Fine w/Remedial Education	March 4, 2002
Lewis, Vertie Regina	542286	Warning	March 12, 2002
Logan, James Vance	256431	Remedial Education	January 16, 2002
Malone, Evelyn Demetra	572716	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Matthews, Charles Edward	605507	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
McBride, Darla Gay	595854	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
McCash, Sharlie F.	505917	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
McFarlane, Jennifer Lyn	551604	Fine w/Remedial Education	February 12, 2002
McGlothlin, Shauna	651726	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Meador, Suellen J. Hey	230827	Remedial Education	February 12, 2002
Medina, Gay Lynn	568178	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Merson, Deborah Anne	553499	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Miller, Doris L.	250077	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Mills, Dianna Lynn	559229	Reprimand w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Mitchell, Meegan	587130	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Moore, Ernest Lee	665206	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Morgan, Natalie K.	510479	Reprimand w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Ney, Shirley C.	534271	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
O'Barto, Patricia D.	541134	Fine w/Remedial Education	December 19, 2001
Oien, Christy	651374	Remedial Education	March 4, 2002
Oser, Christina Allchin	656509	Reprimand w/Stipulations	January 25, 2002
Paganucci, Wanda	656671	Remedial Education	March 11, 2002
Palmer, Ken Leroy	648118	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Paretas, Zulin	557595	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Parvin, Judy Ann	674677	Reprimand	February 12, 2002
Perlas, Mario Pilarta	452859	Suspend/Probate	February 12, 2002
Priller, Sharon L.	517890	Reprimand w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Quinn, Traci	653947	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Rice, Barbara Joyce	596557	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Richards, Jennifer	502139	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Rinn Jr., Ed M.	510200	Remedial Education	January 11, 2002
Rivera, Marta Katina	662943	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Rodriguez, Georgia Lee	605591	Remedial Education	February 21, 2002
Rothbauer, Judith Marie	241964	Fine w/Remedial Education	December 21, 2001
Ryan, Marian	654647	Remedial Education	January 2, 2002
Saberan, Fariba	649330	Remedial Education	February 5, 2002
Sheets, Cheryl Ann	242633	Warning w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Shoquist, Carol Joy	439167	Reprimand w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Simmons, Rhonda G.	626700	Remedial Education	February 12, 2002

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**DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION</u>
Smith, Deborah T.	541551	Remedial Education	February 12, 2002
Smith, Amy Renee	662964	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Spring, Penny Verret	526915	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Starin, Paula Jo	500724	Warning	February 12, 2002
Stedman, Helen J. Wright	213677	Suspended	January 24, 2002
Stephenson, Julie Lynn	252379	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Sundberg, Ronald Carl	565007	Reprimand w/Stipulations	January 24, 2002
Taylor, Bernice L.	256646	Remedial Education	February 25, 2002
Tomlinson, Pamela Jo	545377	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Valadez, Judy Cordova	663197	Remedial Education	January 2, 2002
Vazquez, Tonja Annette	676424	Fine w/Remedial Education	March 4, 2002
Weyandt, Linda Jane	461117	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Wiist, Laura Ann	597497	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Wiley, Stephen Douglas	602363	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Williams, Zoranna	652741	Warning w/Stipulations	March 12, 2002
Williams, Lisa	650436	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Wilson, Uduak Johnson	624154	Remedial Education	February 4, 2002
Witwer, Warren Neal	224878	Remedial Education	January 2, 2002
Wood, Jackie Gale	501544	Warning w/Stipulations	February 12, 2002
Wunsch, Jamie Sue Oates	224192	Remedial Education	January 17, 2002
Wynn, Judy Dianne	252957	License Revoked	January 24, 2002
Yater, Robert Shayne	585185	License Revoked	March 12, 2002
Yeary, Tim V.	246401	Remedial Education	February 26, 2002

**VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS**

***The following individuals have voluntarily surrendered their license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.***

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DATE OF SURRENDER</u>
Anderson, Rebecca Lynn	553684	January 2, 2002
Becker, Beverly Ann	230424	January 23, 2002
Bradford, Ginger Crooks	579664	January 23, 2002
Buchanan, Darren Patrick	578907	March 8, 2002
Calhoon, Dawn Marie	454225	January 7, 2002
Carroll, Eileen Mary	676530	December 13, 2001
Clifton, Jeanne K.	526355	February 15, 2002
Comeaux, Gary Wayne	562166	March 8, 2002
Dixon, Zevia Latorse	562357	March 11, 2002
Enriquez, Patricia Ann	574377	February 4, 2002
Foley, Colleen Bernice	547340	March 1, 2002
Freeman, April C. Hopkins	517080	January 16, 2002
Gryder, Shelia Lynn	649947	February 28, 2002
Hall, Lisa Michelle	674671	January 11, 2002
Hokit, Catherine Toothman	578712	February 4, 2002
Hughes, Janet Lynn	235256	March 1, 2002
Ioakimedes, Stacey Ann	639068	January 2, 2002
Johnson, Gaye Preston	601282	February 12, 2002
Kemp, Anita Kay	601326	January 2, 2002
Lanier, Judy Ann	547816	February 5, 2002
Latham, Kathy Russell	540468	February 4, 2002
Loftis, Martha S.	244524	December 17, 2001
Morris, Kathleen M.	227943	December 31, 2001
Nichols, Michael Ray	230022	December 21, 2001
O'Neil, Jerri Lynn	555301	February 12, 2002
Paredes, Jude	618478	December 31, 2001

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**VOLUNTARY SURRENDERS**

- continued from previous page

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DATE OF SURRENDER</u>
Pitts, Vesta Lee	601828	February 15, 2002
Reber, Mary Ann S.	235115	January 2, 2002
Rose, James Timothy	560821	March 8, 2002
Schmidt, Debra Lynne	660526	January 2, 2002
Soh, Judy Rami	610108	February 12, 2002
Sucarichi, Brenda	645258	January 22, 2002
Wallace, Cynthia	644285	February 14, 2002
Warren, Lauri Evelyn	548770	January 2, 2002
Waters, Carol D.	518522	February 15, 2002
Wick, Rebecca L.	513153	February 12, 2002
Woodard, Linda Lu	585158	January 29, 2002
Yacker, Tomi Lynn	647124	December 21, 2001

**Insufficient Funds**

As of March 7, 2002, 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 employed or seeking 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 may be in violation of the Nursing Practice Act and may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>
Allen, Julie Ann	RN 623827	Oanta, Daniela	TL 83765
Dunlap, Kimberly Alison	RN 665696	Quillin, Rhonda	RN 238758
Edgar, Mildred A	RN 509650	Roberts, Lydia Medrano	TL 84205
Meyers, Stephanie	RN 655919		

**Change of Address**

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Middle Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SSN:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
**RN#** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Old Address:**

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**New Address:**

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Board of Nurse Examiners  
 P.O. Box 430  
 Austin, TX 78767-0430

or  
 e-mail information to:  
[webmaster@bne.state.tx.us](mailto:webmaster@bne.state.tx.us)

**Workshop Update**

**Overview of Current Regulations: A Foundation for Safe RN Practice**

Here's what workshop attendees have had to say about the BNE's workshops:

"I plan to attend as many BNE workshops in the future as I can...it was the most well-put together...seminar that I have ever attended"

"I've not studied or thought about the Nurse Practice Act since I graduated in 1981. Shame on me! I now realize how important this information is for my practice."

"I think every RN should attend one of these seminars...every 2-3 years to keep updated with new and old rules"

Four workshops addressing nursing jurisprudence issues are scheduled for April through June 2002:

- Midland - April 25**
- Austin - May 16**
- Dallas - June 13**
- Ft. Worth - June 14**

The workshop has been approved for 6.4 Type 1 contact hours. The workshop fee is \$70 for pre-registration and \$85 at the door.

**Registration Information**

Brochures/registration forms will be available with pre-registration accepted **six weeks** prior to the workshop, and is always encouraged since space is limited. Payment *must* accompany the registration form, so registration cannot be taken over the phone, e-mail, or fax. If you do not receive a brochure and registration form by five weeks prior to the workshop, you may download one from our website or request one by contacting us. Our phone number for workshop information is (512) 305-6844 and e-mail address is [Tiffany.Flores@bne.state.tx.us](mailto:Tiffany.Flores@bne.state.tx.us)

**BNE HELPFUL NUMBERS**

**MAIN NUMBER.....(512) 305-7400**  
 -- 24 Hour Access  
 -- License Verification  
 -- General Information

**ENFORCEMENT.....(512) 305-6838**  
 -- Complaint and disciplinary action inquiries  
 -- Violations of NPA rules and regulations  
 -- Monitoring of disciplined RNs

**OPERATIONS**

**PROFESSIONAL NURSING**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.....(512) 305-6809**  
 -- License Renewals  
 -- Endorsement/Reciprocity  
 -- Continuing Education for RNs

**ADVANCED PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6843**  
 -- APN application and Prescriptive Authority procedures  
 -- Application Requests.....(512) 305-6867  
 (Voice Box Only)

**ACCOUNTING SERVICES.....(512) 305-6853**  
 -- Returned checks  
 -- Refunds  
 -- Debits

-- Initial Authorization to Practice  
 -- Prescriptive Authority

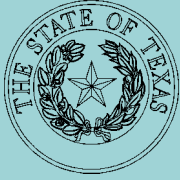
**SALES OF LISTS.....(512) 305-6848**  
 -- Computerized RN mailing lists or labels  
 -- Publications

**EDUCATION & EXAM.....(512) 305-6818**  
 -- RN/APN nursing programs  
 -- Distance Education Initiatives  
 -- NCLEX-RN applications  
 -- Graduate Nurse permits  
 -- Declaratory orders

**NEWSLETTER INFO.....(512) 305-6842**

**NURSING PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6844**  
 -- Nursing practice issues  
 -- Legislation  
 -- Workshop Information

**WEB Address.....www.bne.state.tx.us**  
 -- Refer e-mail inquiries to:  
 webmaster@bne.state.tx.us



The purpose of the *RN Update* is to disseminate information to registered nurses licensed by the State of Texas, their employers, health care providers, and the public concerning laws and regulations established by the Board of Nurse Examiners related to the safe and legal practice of professional nursing. The *RN Update* 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 violate the Nursing Practice Act.

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**Office Hours and Location**

The Office of the Board of Nurse Examiners is located in The William P. Hobby Building, located at the corner of 4th and Guadalupe in downtown Austin. The mailing address is P.O. Box 430, Austin, Texas 78767-0430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays.

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**Board Meeting Schedule - 2002**

**April 18-19**

**July 25-26**

**October 24-25**

Meetings to be held in Austin

**Board of Nurse Examiners  
for the State of Texas  
P.O. Box 430  
Austin, TX 78767-0430**

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