

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF PRACTICAL NURSE EXAMINERS
3421 NORTH CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 505
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70002-3715
(504) 838-5791
FAX (504) 838-5279
www.lsbpne.com

RECEIVED

JUN 17 2013

L.S.B.P.N.E.

In the matter of: **Debra Thomas**
8309 Waco St
Metairie, LA 70003

License #220684

Date offered: **June 5, 2013**

Date offer expires: **June 25, 2013**

CONSENT ORDER

To facilitate a conclusion to the allegations against Debra Thomas, LPN, the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners does hereby offer this Consent Order. The allegations include:

In December, 2012, the respondent renewed her Louisiana practical nursing license for 2013. The board finds that she answered "no" to question H, on her 2013 renewal application, "SINCE YOUR LAST RENEWAL, HAVE YOU: Been arrested, charged, convicted of, plead guilty, or no contest and/or nolo contendere or been sentenced for any criminal offense in any state? (NOTE: even though an arrest or conviction has been pardoned, expunged, dismissed or deferred and your civil rights have been restored, you must answer "YES" and attach a detailed written statement and certified copy of the criminal record(s)."

However, the board received a newspaper report indicating that the respondent was arrested 3/25/12, after she allegedly pretended to be the victim of a carjacking. She later admitted that she made up the story and was charged with false swearing against the public health.

Based on the evidence submitted, the Board has concluded that **Ms. Thomas** is in violation of the following provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Title 37, Chapter 11. Nurses, Part II. Practical Nurses, Section 969 A. 4. **(a) is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice practical nursing; (b) is guilty of a crime; (c) is unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence habit, or other causes; (f) is guilty of unprofessional conduct; (g) has violated any provisions of this Part; and §978. A. (8) Violate any provisions of this Part.**

As further defined in the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 46, Part XLVII. Nurses, Subpart 1, Practical Nurses, Section 306,T.

- 1. **being guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice practical nursing;**

Debra Thomas C.A.

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LETTER OF REPRIMAND

In the matter of: **Debra Thomas**
8309 Waco St
Metairie, LA 70003

License #220684

Date: **June 5, 2013**

The Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners hereby issues this Letter of Reprimand against Debra Thomas, LPN based on the following:

In December, 2012, the respondent renewed her Louisiana practical nursing license for 2013. The board finds that she answered "no" to question H, on her 2013 renewal application, "SINCE YOUR LAST RENEWAL, HAVE YOU: Been arrested, charged, convicted of, plead guilty, or no contest and/or nolo contendere or been sentenced for any criminal offense in any state? (NOTE: even though an arrest or conviction has been pardoned, expunged, dismissed or deferred and your civil rights have been restored, you must answer "YES" and attach a detailed written statement and certified copy of the criminal record(s)."

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- 2. being guilty of a crime;
- 3. being unfit, or incompetent by reason of negligence, habit or other causes;
- 8. being guilty of unprofessional conduct;
 - i. falsifying records;
 - n. being convicted of a crime or offense which reflects the inability of the nurse to practice practical nursing with due regard for the health and safety of clients or patients or enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a criminal charge regardless of final disposition of the criminal proceeding including, but not limited to, expungement or nonadjudication or pardon;
 - t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.

In lieu of a formal hearing on the matter, the respondent consents to accept and abide by the following Orders of the Board:

- 1. That she be issued a Letter of Reprimand as disciplinary action against her license for the violations of the Nurse Practice Act.
- 2. That she be fined \$250.00 for the violations of the Nurse Practice Act, payable by **cashier's check or money order** within ninety (90) days of the acceptance of this agreement.

Furthermore, the respondent is hereby notified and by signature Debra Thomas acknowledges and agrees that failure to comply with the Orders of the Board may result in any or all of the following:

VIOLATIONS

Failure to comply with any and/or all sections of this order may result in any and/or all of the following: a) immediate suspension of license, b) indefinite suspension of license, c) ineligibility for annual renewal of license, d) additional fines/penalties up to \$500.00 per occurrence, e) increased probationary period, f) summary suspension, and/or g) revocation.

Debra Thomas C.A.

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 - i. falsifying records;
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 - t. violating any provisions of R.S. 37:961 et seq. (the practical nursing practice act), as amended or aiding or abetting therein.

Furthermore, the respondent is hereby fined \$250.00 for the above violations, payable by cashier's check or money order only, within ninety (90) days of the acceptance of this agreement.

The Board has jurisdiction over your license and hereby publicly reprimands you for violating the Nurse Practice Act. This letter of reprimand is considered disciplinary action by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners. This disciplinary action is reportable to all applicable state and federal agencies.

M. Lynn Ansardi R.N.

M. Lynn Ansardi, R.N.
Executive Director

Debra Thomas C.A.

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CONSENT ORDER ACCEPTANCE

I, Debra Thomas, agree that the Board has jurisdiction over this matter. I specifically waive my right to contest these findings in any subsequent proceedings before the Board. I understand that this Consent Order shall constitute as public record and is disciplinary action by the Board.

I further acknowledge and attest that I have fully cooperated with the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners in resolving these charges, and intend to comply with all stipulations of this order.

I voluntarily agree to sign and have witnessed the terms of this order for the purpose of avoiding a formal hearing with the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners.

I do say that I freely, knowingly and voluntarily enter into this order. I understand that I have a right to a hearing in this matter and I freely waive such right. I understand that I have a right to legal counsel prior to entering into this order.

I understand that this order is effective immediately upon signature of the Executive Director and will become an Order of the Board. It is understood that this order does not preclude the Board of Practical Nurse Examiners from requiring a formal hearing of my case. I further understand that should the Consent Order not be accepted by the Board, I agree that presentation to and consideration of the Consent Order, the documenting evidence and information by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from participation in hearings or other proceedings pertaining to these or other matters regarding this respondent.

Debra Thomas 6/13/13
Signature of licensee Date

Lashawn Robinson 6/13/2013
Signature of witness # 1 Date

Lathanda Brown 6/13/2013
Signature of witness #2 Date

Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners

M Lynn Ansardi R N 6/17/13
M. LYNN ANSARDI, R.N.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Date

Debra Thomas C.A.

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