



# RN UPDATE

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



October 2001

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## National Council of State Boards of Nursing Elects Texas BNE Employee as Director of Area III

At the annual meeting of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), Mark Majek, an employee of the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiners, was elected to the position of Area III Director.

The NCSBN Delegate Assembly met in Pittsburgh August 7-12, 2001 for their annual meeting. In addition to conducting its regular business, the delegates elected seven board members to serve NCSBN during the next two years. The NCSBN divides all of its member boards into four areas of the United States and its territories. Area III includes the states of: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Mr. Majek has been involved in NCSBN on the NURSYS Advisory Panel, Information Systems Users Group, Licensure Verification Task Force and Special Services Division Forms Group. He is a current member of the Society for Human Resource Management.

Mr. Majek is the Director of Operations for the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE). He has been an employee of the BNE since 1987. In his current position, he oversees agency finances, information systems and human resources and supervises staff in accounting services, data processing, mail operations, open records and purchasing. Mr. Majek received a Master of Art Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Corpus Christi State University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government from the University of Texas at Austin.

The Board is pleased that Mr. Majek will represent the interests of Texas and the Area in his position on the Council's Board of Directors.



Mark Majek, MA, PHR elected Area III Director for National Council of State Boards of Nursing

### MEET YOUR NEW BNE BOARD MEMBERS...

In this issue, we will be introducing you to several of the newest Board Members appointed by Governor Rick Perry on July 6, 2001. Governor Perry appointed two new consumer members and two RN members to the Board. In this issue, we will meet one of the new consumer members, Phyllis Caves Rawley of El Paso. We will also profile a new RN member, Virginia Campbell, BSN, RN of Mesquite. In January, we will profile your other new BNE Board members.

## A Word from the Executive Director



Kathy Thomas, MN, RN

### **What Has the Board Done For Nursing Lately?**

As I travel around the state or talk to nurses by telephone, it is fairly common to hear nurses ask what the Board does for them and why the Board doesn't represent nurses in workplace, employment and reimbursement issues.

There is clearly some confusion about the role of the Board. It's easy to see why nurses might be confused. After all, we are the Board of *Nurse* Examiners. Nurses have regular contact with the Board to maintain licensure. They look to the Board to interpret the Nursing Practice Act and the Standards of Nursing Practice. But, like all State government agencies, the Board's responsibilities and work are guided by a legislative mandate that defines its functions.

The Board is a state agency charged with regulating the practice of professional nursing and establishing nursing education standards. The Nursing Practice Act provides for the establishment of a Board of Nurse Examiners empowered with the responsibility and legal authority for ensuring that practitioners of nursing are competent to practice in Texas. The NPA provides that the privilege and responsibility of practicing professional nursing be entrusted only to those persons duly licensed, registered and practicing under the provisions of this act. The paramount outcome of this role is protecting the public. Accordingly, the Mission of the Board is to protect and promote the welfare of the people of Texas. This purpose supersedes the interests of any individual, the nursing profession, or any special interest group. Although employees of the Board may provide information to the Legislature upon request, they are prohibited from lobbying the legislature.

The Board's role differs from professional associations whose purpose is to represent the interests of nurses and the profession. The associations focus on legislative, political and practice matters. They lobby the Legislature; influence public policy to benefit nursing; and address workplace issues such as staffing, the nursing shortage, and mandatory overtime.

These role distinctions were not conceived by chance. The emphasis on different missions serves different purposes. It limits conflicts of interest and promotes the unique concerns of the public and the profession.

Often the interests of the profession and the Board overlap. An example of an area of mutual concern is the promotion of patient safety. Nurses and the Board want to assure that patients receive safe, appropriate, quality care. The Board and the professional association have separate but equally important roles to play in the promotion of safety. The Board establishes and enforces standards. Professional associations address staffing and other workplace issues that may affect safety.

What the Board does for nursing is to regulate the profession in the interest of the public. Our web site [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) contains information on current activities of the Board. If you have questions or comments about the role of the Board, e-mail them to: [webmaster@bne.state.tx.us](mailto:webmaster@bne.state.tx.us).



### The Board of Nurse Examiners For the State of Texas

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

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*representing Nursing Practice,  
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*representing ADN Programs,  
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Elizabeth Poster, PhD, RN  
*representing BSN Programs,  
Arlington*

Phyllis Caves Rawley, CPC  
*Consumer Member, El Paso*

#### **Executive Director**

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN

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## Proposed and Adopted Rules



### **Rule 222 Advanced Practice Nurses Limited Prescriptive Authority**

At the July 2001 meeting of the Board of Nurse Examiners, members voted to adopt new Rule §222 Advanced Practice Nurses Limited Prescriptive Authority on an emergency basis to become effective 20 days after publication in the *Texas Register*. The Nursing Practice Act was amended during the 77th Legislative Session by amending the definition of professional nursing to include the performance of an act delegated by a physician under §§157.0541 or §§157.0542 of the Medical Practice Act. The amendments to Rule §222 allow advanced practice nurses with limited prescriptive authority to sign prescription drug orders in alternate sites where the physician has delegated the authority to do so. New Rule §222 became effective September 7, 2001.

### **Rule 223.1 Fees**

At the July 2001 meeting of the Board of Nurse Examiners, members also voted to adopt revised Rule §223.1 Fees, as an emergency rule to be effective September 1, 2001. The 77th Legislature, in Rider 2 of the 2002-2003 Appropriations Act, approved budget appropriations for the Board contingent on those appropriations being paid through Board fee collections. The new fees will be applied beginning September 1, 2001 in order to comply with the legislative mandate to cover all appropriations through fees. Endorsement fees increased from \$100 to \$125, License Renewal increased from \$42 to \$45, APN Initial Approval increased from \$50 to \$75, Declaratory Order fees increased from \$100 to \$150 and Eligibility Determination fees increased from \$100 to \$150.

## **Advisory Committee Update**

### **APN Advisory Committee**

The APN advisory committee met on June 27, 2001 in Austin. The committee continued work on their charge to review the recently revised Rules §§221 and 222 and make recommendations for development of new policies/guidelines necessitated by the rule revisions. Specific discussions focused on final development of guidelines for sponsored practice for a graduate advanced practice nurse who was unsuccessful on his/her first certification examination attempt. These recommendations were presented to and approved by the Board at its July 2001 meeting. The committee also discussed emergency revisions to Rule §222 necessitated by the passage of SB 1166. The recommendations were considered and approved by the Board.

### **NEAC Subcommittee Report**

The NEAC subcommittee has met several times over the last year in an effort to complete its charge to review and revise the NEAC-Competencies (NEAC-C). The NEAC-C were developed in 1992 to identify essential competencies of graduates from each type of entry level nursing program (Vocational, Diploma, Associate Degree, and Baccalaureate Degree). Last fall surveys were sent to all professional nursing education programs. Survey results were analyzed and incorporated into the committee's revision of the NEAC-C document. A draft of the document is being sent to professional nursing education programs and other stakeholders for their review and comment. A final report will then be compiled and presented to the Board at its January 2002 meeting. The next NEAC subcommittee meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2001 at the William Hobby Building, Tower 2, Room 225, Austin, Texas.

### **Nursing Practice Advisory Committee (NPAC)**

NPAC first met in October 2000 to address the Board's charge to discuss possible revisions to BNE Rule §217.17(c) relating to "parity of counsel" in the peer review process. Since that time, NPAC has met on several occasions resulting in divergent opinions on how to address this issue and facilitate equity in the peer review process. Revisions to Rule §217.17 have been proposed by NPAC and BNE staff are in the process of finalizing this language for presentation at the January 2002 Board Meeting.

## ***Meet your new Board Members***

### **Phyllis Caves Rawley, CPC**

**Phyllis Caves Rawley, CPC was appointed to the Board of Nurse Examiners on July 6, 2001 by Governor Rick Perry. She serves as a consumer member of the Board. She currently lives and works in El Paso as a Sustainable Neighborhoods Program Manager for the El Paso Empowerment Zone. Previously, she was Principal Partner for the Tesana Group Inc., an investment group committed to establishing affordable housing in El Paso. Ms. Rawley's educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Texas at El Paso and an Associates degree in Fashion Merchandising from Bauder Fashion College.**



What was it that motivated you to pursue this position with the Board of Nurse Examiners?

**My experience in human resources management and recruiting interested me in using this to serve the Board.**

How can the Board of Nurse Examiners better protect the public and serve the people of Texas?

**Communicate problems immediately.**

What goals do you have for yourself while serving as a member of the Board of Nurse Examiners?

**Knowledge and experience that will serve my community and state.**

Is there anything specific you'd like to say to the readers of *RN Update*?

**Thank you for all you do!**

## ***Meet your new Board Members***

### **Virginia Milam Campbell, RN, B.S.N., CNOR**

#### **Current Work Position:**

Since 1988--Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Dallas, Texas, Surgical Services. I do all of the pre-operative education for patients and their families the day before their surgery. The day of surgery, I take on the role of holding room nurse, which means that I coordinate their preoperative medication and arrival time to the surgery unit. I also act as a liaison between the families and the surgery staff.



#### **Past Positions:**

My nursing background includes working in aphaeresis at Wadley Blood Bank as well as intensive care. I have been a Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the City of Mesquite since 1994. Prior to that, I served for 8 years as a member of the Mesquite Municipal Library Advisory Board.

#### **Educational Background:**

El Centro College, Dallas, A.D.N. 1977. B.S.N. University of Texas at Arlington, 1995. Certified Operating Room Nurse (CNOR), Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (A.O.R.N.)

#### **Professional Affiliations:**

Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (A.O.R.N.) since 1990. Member of Dallas Chapter.

#### **Is there a single event that inspired you to pursue the position with the Board or the profession of nursing? If so, what was it?**

I framed my nurse's license, which hung in the hallway of my home for over 20 years. That visual image, along with my years of community service and nursing experience inspired me to serve the state of Texas.

#### **What do you see as the most important issues affecting the regulation of professional nursing?**

1. Nursing education—nursing schools must prepare students to function appropriately and safely in a very technical world.
2. The nursing shortage must be addressed. Nursing must be promoted as a positive career choice for young people and as a second career for older students. At the same time, we must not lower the academic standards for educating nurses.
3. Multistate licensure will help nurses obtain work more quickly when moving to a different state.

#### **In your experience, how has professional nursing changed over the years?**

Nursing becomes more technical every day! There is so much more high tech equipment to operate than 25 years ago. This augments our assessment skills. I have witnessed many nursing shortages over the years, but the current one is escalating into a continual crisis.

#### **How do you see the role of the RN changing as the nursing shortage becomes more of a problem?**

Responsibility will increase as nurses become scarcer. Some patient care duties are already being delegated to other health care workers. This trend will likely increase with RN's moving from the bedside to supervising technicians in the hospital setting.

#### **Is there anything specific you'd like to say to the readers of *RN Update*?**

Use your basic assessment skills as the foundation of patient care. Technology is wonderful, but it will never replace the intelligence and compassion of a human being.

## Bill Summary: 77th Texas Legislative Session

The 77th Texas Legislative Session concluded and a number of bills passed into law that are relevant to professional nursing in Texas. The first bills addressed in this summary will be those that amend the NPA, require the Board of Nurse Examiners to implement corresponding rules and regulations, or require other action by the Board. Those will be followed by a listing of other bills that may require changes to specialized areas of nursing practice. We hope that this summary will encourage readers to pursue further information on enacted legislation through internet resources such as Texas Legislature Online which is located at: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>

### Bills Impacting Nursing Practice Act or RN Rules & Regulations

Bill Number\Author	Implications
<b>HB 803 - Junell</b>	Pertains to current billing practice where third party payers do not directly <b>reimburse RNFAs</b> for their services. HB 803 prohibits an insurance company from refusing to contract with an RNFA or cover services because they were performed by a RNFA. The NPA has also been amended to indicate that the Board will recognize national certifying bodies for RNFAs and recognize organizations that approve or accredit RNFA educational programs. The Board will adopt rules governing RNFAs. Bill applies only to health insurance policies on or after 1/1/2002.
<b>HB 456 - Maxey</b>	Permits <b>persons with disabilities to utilize services of unlicensed person to perform certain tasks</b> ; task force to form to address nursing delegation and services to disabled people in independent environments
<b>HB 2650 - Capelo</b>	Bill pertains to amendment of the Nursing Practice Act, requiring <b>RN licensees to obtain at least 2 hrs. of CE relating to hepatitis C</b> between June 1, 2002 and June 1, 2004. The Board will amend Rule 216 (CE) in response to HB 2650. SB 338 - Madla contains identical language on relating to hepatitis C CE for RN licensees. SB 338 also requires TDH to prepare statewide plan on prevention and treatment of disease.
<b>HB 2812- Wolens</b>	Bill pertains to <b>nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes</b> . This bill accomplishes statute cleanup from recodification of the NPA undertaken in previous legislative session. The Nurse Licensure Compact and the Outpatient Nurse Anesthesia bills from last session are now in the Occupations Code.
<b>SB 572- Moncrief</b>	<b>Addresses the nursing shortage</b> by establishing a program through which the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) will award funds to nursing programs to provide the resources needed to enroll additional students, assure the retention of qualified faculty, including providing faculty salaries, and encourage innovation in the recruitment and retention of students. This bill also amends the nursing financial aid program currently administered by THECB to give THECB more flexibility in using the appropriated funds in the best way to produce the nurses the state needs. SB 572 also increases the pool of qualified nursing faculty by providing incentives for postgraduate nursing students to go into teaching. Bill also added language in NPA to create Workforce Data Center but did not add provisions to fund Center.
<b>SB 1166 - Madla</b>	Amended the Medical Practice Act (MPA) to expand the types of sites that qualify for limited prescriptive authority for advanced practice nurses. Language includes prescribing at alternate sites and provisions for the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners to grant a waiver of site or supervision requirements. The bill also amended the Nursing Practice Act [Section 301.002(2)] by amending the definition of professional nursing to include the performance of an act delegated by a physician under the new sections of the MPA. Revisions to Rule 222 have been made and can be seen at the BNE web site located at <a href="http://www.bne.state.tx.us">www.bne.state.tx.us</a> .

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## 77th Legislative Session - continued

<b>Other Bills Relating to Professional Nursing in Texas</b>
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<u>Bill Number\Author</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Asthma Treatment</u> HB 342 - McClendon	Texas Department of Health (TDH) to study children's asthma disease management program
HB 1688 - McClendon	Allows conditional self-administration of asthma medications by students
<u>Border Health, Rural &amp; Medically Underserved</u> HB 7 - Chisum	Creates Office of Rural Community Affairs which will administer financial assistance programs to increase number of health care providers in rural areas
HB 757 - Coleman	TDH Health Disparities Task Force to address health care disparities
HB 1124 - Turner	Mentoring program for young people to encourage working in health professions in underserved areas to be administered by Center for Rural Health Initiatives (CRHI)
HB 2614 - Solis	TDH Dental Care Pilot Program to provide dental services to border-region children
SB 31 - Zaffirini	Grants for students in health profession education programs w/1 year of rural work
SB 115 - Madla	CRHI to establish Rural Foundation to finance indigent care programs
SB 126 - Madla	CRHI to set up investment program funding loan reimbursement for health professionals working in underserved areas
SB 1053 - Shapleigh	Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish advisory committee to look at health care reimbursement disparities in border region
SB 1394 - Fraser	Changes implementation of Rural Health Care Service under insurance code where APNs can be health care providers
<u>Communicable Disease, Vaccines, Public Health</u> HB 391 - Maxey	Minimum guidelines for donor milk banks
HB 2989 - Gutierrez	Required screening for acanthosis nigricans coinciding with other screenings
SB 280 - Nelson	TDH to assess storage and distribution of vaccines by private entities
SB 282 - Nelson	TDH to provide info. on Vaccines for Children to every health care provider
SB 515 - Madla	Counties to establish adult fatality review teams, health care provider reporting requirements for deaths that may have been suicide, family violence, etc.
<u>Consent for Treatment</u> SB 22 - Shapiro	"JoJo's Law" Admission & consent of minors to treatment/rehabilitation of chemical dependency
<u>Dental Anesthesia</u> SB 539 - Carona	Board of Dental Examiners to establish standards for enteral administration of anesthesia. May require new rules for administering anesthesia in dental settings in future.
<u>Health Care Information</u> SB 11 - Nelson	Patient medical data not to be used for marketing or otherwise by insurance or pharmaceutical companies
HB 398 - Smith	Confidentiality of medical and billing records to be maintained
<u>Infant Mortality</u> SB 55 - Zaffirini	Requires development of education program to prevent infant mortality
<u>Insurance Fraud</u> HB 1562 - Thompson	Health care providers who present or support fraudulent claims subject to penalties
<u>Long Term Care</u> SB 355 - Lindsay	Person prescribing psychoactive medication or their designee required to explain information about medication and obtain informed consent
SB 1100 - Moncrief	Establishes pilot centers for the advancement of quality in long term care
<u>Medication Coverage</u> HB 2004 - Maxey	Person discharged from Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation inpatient facility must have medication payment provision prior to discharge
<u>Persons with Disabilities</u> SB 367 - Zaffirini	HHSC and other agencies to implement plan that fosters the independence of people with disabilities. Task force to be established towards meeting this goal.
<u>Reporting</u> HB 3473 - Naishtat	No employer discrimination if reporting allegation of child abuse
HB 3335 - Telford	Immunity from civil & criminal liability for reporting suspected abuse of the elderly
<u>Telemedicine</u> HB 2700 - Chavez	HHSC to establish reimbursed telemedicine pilot programs in underserved areas
SB 789 - Moncrief	Establishes new delivery system and payment method for medical services provided via telemedicine



## EDUCATION REPORT

By Sandra Owen, MN, RN



### **July 2001 Board Action**

**Based on the 2000 Annual Report, and NCLEX-RN® pass rate, continued full accreditation with Requirement for:**

Baccalaureate Degree Program  
Tarleton State University

**Based on the 2000 Annual Report, and a self-study report which evaluates factors which contributed to graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® & a description of the corrective measures to be implemented, continued full accreditation with requirements for:**

Baccalaureate Degree Program  
Texas A & M University - Corpus Christi

**Based on the Annual Report, survey visit, and a self-study report which evaluates factors which contributed to graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented, continued full accreditation with commendation, recommendations, and requirements for:**

Associate Degree Program  
Midland College

**Based on the Annual Report, and a self-study report which evaluates factors which contributed to graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® and a description of the corrective measures to be implemented, continued full accreditation with commendations, recommendations, and requirements for:**

Associate Degree Program  
Cisco Junior College

**Accepted the self-study report which evaluates factors which contributed to graduates' performance on the NCLEX-RN® and a description of corrective measures to be implemented issued a Requirement for:**

Baccalaureate Degree Program  
The University of Texas at El Paso

**Approved placing a Distance Education Initiative (DEI) in Dormant Status for:**

Amarillo College Associate Degree Nursing Program DEI site in Borger, TX  
Paris Junior College Associate Degree Nursing Program DEI site in Greenville, TX

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

University of Texas at Arlington RN to BSN Program in cooperation with University of North Texas Systems Center at Dallas  
University of Texas at Tyler Generic BSN Program at Longview

#### **Program Closure:**

Approved the plan for closure of the Tarleton State University Associate Degree Nursing Program

**Based on review of a survey visit report, issued commendations, recommendations, and requirements for:**

Tyler Junior College Associate Degree Nursing Program

**Based upon review of a status report, and a review of the NCLEX-RN® examination pass rate the Board voted to allow Fall admissions if an 80% pass rate was met by August 10, 2001 for:**

College of the Mainland

#### **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: Kendra Sutton of Temple, Elizabeth Barrett of Uvalde, and Anita Geoffrion of Denton served as Exam Item Reviewers; Linda McGee of Temple served as Alternate Exam Item Reviewer. 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.



## APN Questions and Answers



**Q: I am a pediatric nurse practitioner. I was educated to see patients through the age of 21 years in my PNP program. The physician I work with wants me to see adult patients as well. She says that, since my assessment course included assessment of adult patients, I should be able to care for these clients as well. Is there a list of things I can or cannot do as a PNP? Are adult patients within my scope of practice since this content was part of my course in advanced assessment?**

**A:** The Board does not have a list of functions that may be performed or services that may be provided by advanced practice nurses. Rather, Rule §221.12 states that the advanced practice nurse's scope of practice is based upon his/her educational preparation, continued advanced practice experience, and the accepted scope of professional practice for the particular specialty area. The professional specialty organizations have developed more specific scope of practice statements for advanced practice nurses in their particular specialty areas. Advanced practice nurses may provide those services that are within that scope of practice and that are consistent with the Texas Nursing Practice Act, Board rules, and other laws and regulations of the State of Texas.

The definition of professional nursing includes the performance of an assessment as part of the scope of practice of the registered nurse [*Texas Occupations Code*, Sec. 301.002(2)(A)]. Therefore, you are correct in presuming that you may assess an adult patient. Advanced assessment content, however, is not equivalent to didactic and clinical content in diagnosis and management of health status within a specific clinical specialty/practice area. As an advanced practice nurse, you have the educational preparation to provide advanced practice nursing services to patients in a particular role within a particular specialty area only. According to the Standards of Professional Nursing Practice as specified in §217.11, standard (12) states that, as a registered nurse, you shall "accept only those assignments that take into consideration patient safety and that are commensurate with [your] own educational preparation, experience, knowledge, and physical and emotional ability." Furthermore, the Core Standards for Advanced Practice [§221.13(b)] require that the advanced practice nurse practice within the advanced specialty and role appropriate to his/her educational preparation. In your case, you may provide advanced practice nursing care in the role of nurse practitioner to pediatric patients only. This does not preclude you from working with adult patients, but you may only do so when providing care that is within the scope of practice of the registered nurse. This means that, although you may perform an assessment, you may not diagnose or medically manage the patient's condition.

If you wish to provide advanced practice nursing services to adults, then you must complete a program that prepares you to provide those services to adults. Upon completion of this program, you must then apply for authorization to practice in the additional role and specialty and meet the requirements for authorization to practice as specified in Rule §221. The Board does not consider on-the-job training or informal classes as equivalent to formal education. You must be able to demonstrate that a contemplated area of advanced nursing practice was taught in your advanced educational program (e.g., nurse anesthesia, pediatrics, nurse-midwifery, adult health, etc) and that you were prepared in a particular advanced nursing role (e.g., nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist). The purpose of the requirements for advanced practice authorization is to assure the public that advanced practice nurses have the necessary education to provide advanced nursing services to a particular patient population or group. In addition, it is required that advanced practice nurses maintain continued competency in the advanced role and specialty and provide evidence of such when requested to do so by the board. This is consistent with the board's mission to protect and promote the welfare of the people of Texas (*BNE Mission Statement*) and these requirements have been established to assist the Board in accomplishing its mission.

### 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.

# IMPOSTOR WARNING

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

## BECKY A. SANDEFUR

Becky A. Sandefur applied for employment with a doctor's office in San Antonio, Texas, and worked as an Administrative Office Manager from April 5, 2001 through April 19, 2001. Ms. Sandefur signed RN after her name on a cover-letter that she submitted to the doctor. Ms. Sandefur also included a resume on which she indicates that she is an RN, MSN. Ms. Sandefur was terminated from employment after the doctor's office was unable to verify licensure and Ms. Sandefur admitted that she was not licensed.



## JERRY GRANT MITCHELL

Jerry Grant Mitchell worked as a registered nurse in the position of Clinical Case Manager and Advanced Practice Nurse, at a hospital in the Dallas, Texas area, from November 8, 1999 to April 27, 2001. Mr. Mitchell did not hold a license to practice in the State of Texas and his license in the state of Tennessee had been revoked in 1995. The hospital police referred the case to the district attorney's office in Dallas County and they are pursuing criminal charges.



## STEPHANIE A. WATSON

Stephanie A. Watson was employed by a school district as a nurses aide from September 2000 through May 2001. During her employment, she represented herself as a registered nurse and a Family Nurse Practitioner, and used the abbreviations RN and FNP after her name on letters to parents. Ms. Watson has never been licensed as a registered nurse in any jurisdiction. Ms. Watson is a student enrolled at West Texas A & M University in Canyon, Texas.



## SHERRILL L. NEVINS a.k.a. SHERI LYNN COON

Sheri Lynn Coon applied for a position as a registered nurse in the operating room at a hospital in Hereford, Texas on February 20, 2001. Ms. Coon was instructed to appear on March 12, 2001 for license verification and salary negotiation, however she did not show up. The facility received an anonymous phone call from a male informing them that Ms. Coon was not a registered nurse. The facility contacted the university listed in the employment application and verified that Ms. Coon did not have a degree in nursing. The facility tried verifying a license number provided by Ms. Coon and it did not match, therefore she was not hired.



## STEVEN MEYER

Steven Meyer applied for an LVN position at a hospital in Austin, Texas and was hired on February 19, 2001. Mr. Meyer was asked to bring his license in for verification and he presented a registered nurse license which had been tampered with. The staff member verifying the license called the LVN Board and was informed that the number on the license was not one of their numbers. The license presented by Mr. Meyer read "Board of Nurse Examiners" at the top and the staff member verifying the license stated it was a registered nurse license. Mr. Meyer was terminated on March 6, 2001, for presenting a false license. The case has been referred to the Travis County District Attorney's office.



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**IMPOSTOR WARNING** - continued**RONALD CHAIRES**

Ronald Chaires worked as a clinical assistant in the ICU of a hospital in Austin, Texas, for three years. Mr. Chaires then told his supervisor that he would graduate with an Associate Degree in Nursing from Austin Community College in December 2000 and wanted to work as a Graduate Nurse. Mr. Chaires applied and was hired as a Graduate Nurse with a start date of January 15, 2001. Mr. Chaires was required to bring a letter from the Board of Nurse Examiners office verifying his graduate nurse permit. On March 2, 2001 Mr. Chaires was told to go to the Board office and obtain a letter; he told them that he could not take the licensure examination because the nursing school messed up on some of his credits. The Clinical Manager called the school and was told that Mr. Chaires was not graduating in December 2000. On March 8, 2001, the supervisor met with Mr. Chaires and he admitted to the falsification; he was terminated from employment. The case was referred to the Travis County District Attorney's office.

**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>
Abella, Melecio Panganiban	607324	Remedial Education	July 16, 2001
Adeseye, Christie Olubusola	605919	Reprimand w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Agravante, Heidi Liza Montejo	603537	Warning w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Baccus, Evelyn	637591	Reprimand w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Baker, Dana Lee	593475	Remedial Education	September 5, 2001
Baxter, Nancy Kay	566878	Fine & Remedial Education	July 18, 2001
Becannon, Betty A.	254612	Reprimand w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Brinkman, Mary Beth	439901	Reprimand w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Brooks, Barbara Kay	571192	Suspend/Probate	July 19, 2001
Brown, Bette Suzanne	561939	Remedial Education	August 17, 2001
Brown, Willa	565206	Suspended	July 19, 2001
Buzalsky, Pamela R.	617984	Remedial Education	August 22, 2001
Carrington, Kay Suzanna	242897	Warning w/Stipulations	August 14, 2001
Coulter, Sharon Louise	606176	Suspended/Probate	August 14, 2001
Daigle, Frances A.F.	213936	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Dejohn-Gaura, Virginia	648204	Remedial Education	August 30, 2001
Duffus, Stephanie Joan	592757	License Revoked	September 11, 2001
Edwards, Linda Dorothea	607485	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Ethridge, Gary Brent	594520	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Garner, Christine Joan	668123	Remedial Education	August 1, 2001
Garrison, Joanne M. N.	417457	Fine & Remedial Education	July 9, 2001
Gibson, Mary Greer	231058	Fine & Remedial Education	June 29, 2001
Gilbert, Greg	658148	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Groves, Candy Elizabeth	595331	Remedial Education	July 16, 2001
Harrington, Tina C.	525561	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Hecht, Maude	652027	Warning w/Stipulations	August 14, 2001
Higman, Karen Elizabeth	623365	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Hillman, Cheryl L.	533574	Warning w/Stipulation	July 19, 2001
Johnson, Sharon Lea	575016	Remedial Education	August 30, 2001
Jones, Cassandra Jean	236375	Remedial Education	September 6, 2001
Jozwiak, Virginia K.	605463	Remedial Education	August 30, 2001
Kanady, Donna Leigh	551467	Limited License w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Keesee, Diane Lyn	561449	License Revoked	August 14, 2001

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**DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION</u>
Keller, James Shirley	503453	Suspend/Probate	September 11, 2001
Kennedy, Teresa Rose	245289	Reprimand w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Kline, Karen Maria	595492	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Kwan, Danny Wong	611919	Warning w/Stipulations	August 14, 2001
Kyle, Beverly D.	541043	Fine & Remedial Education	July 9, 2001
Lapaglia, Mary J.	630773	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Leif	628322	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Leonard, Rhonda Lynn	583302	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Lois, Michele Marie	448501	Remedial Education	September 21, 2001
Lozano, Alice	505032	Remedial Education	August 20, 2001
Madu, Rita Nwanyibunwa	579715	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Martin, Angela Evonne	634202	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Martin, Tana Diane	673882	Fine & Remedial Education	July 9, 2001
McAdams, Kathleen	572786	Fine & Remedial Education	July 19, 2001
McDonald, Lynda Joyce	595884	Remedial Education	September 21, 2001
McGinnis, Paula G.	620073	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
McMahon, Carrie Brunette	663581	Warning w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Meador, Mary Ann	607698	License Revoked	September 11, 2001
Meadows, Holly	638036	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Miller, Joy Sandra	585832	Remedial Education	August 22, 2001
Mitchell, Alice E.	240765	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Morris, Tamora Ann	255981	Reprimand w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Morrow III, Hubert Wesley	546610	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Mozingo, Jamie L.	526279	License Revoked	September 11, 2001
Nahkunst, Carl Duane	642936	Remedial Education	August 2, 2001
Ndukwe, Nelly Kodichinma	662922	Warning w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Neal, Brenda Gail	460087	Fine & Remedial Education	August 17, 2001
Nelson, Linda Marie	500536	Fine & Remedial Education	July 16, 2001
Nickelson, Gaye Dawn	462019	Remedial Education	June 12, 2001
Pacheco, Patricia Ann	243817	Remedial Education	August 31, 2001
Payne, Paula L.	537698	Remedial Education	August 13, 2001
Pena, Lisa	666091	Remedial Education w/Stips.	August 17, 2001
Perlas, Mario Pilarta	452859	Reprimand w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Pride, Cynthia J.	256358	Fine & Remedial Education	July 19, 2001
Rashall, Gary Michael	584124	Remedial Education	September 11, 2001
Rogers, Karen R.	541392	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Royal, Mae Tovias	578328	Reprimand w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Santos, Sandra P.	608198	Fine & Remedial Education	September 21, 2001
Santoyo, Graciela	644894	Warning w/Stipulations	June 12, 2001
Shelley, Diane Marie	602059	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Simmons, Michael Dewitt	618578	Remedial Education	July 19, 2001
Slevin, Margaret Alisa	250527	Warning w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Sloan, Melissa Maxine	602086	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Smith, Richard Lee	576792	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Tamas, Jordon Lee	645119	Suspend/Probate	September 11, 2001
Taylor, Charlotte G. S.	219621	Reprimand w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Tipton, Cynthia Lynn	584797	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Vese, Regina Koyenum	667226	Remedial Education	August 13, 2001
Walker, Gail	445182	Remedial Education	July 16, 2001
Walker, Michael Douglas	584959	Reprimand w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Walters, Marie Michelle	620168	Warning w/Stipulations	September 11, 2001
Washington, Mattie Bell	518520	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Waymire, Ruth Ann	585004	Remedial Education	June 25, 2001
Webb Jr., Donald R.	244646	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001
Wesson, Jeffrey L.	636195	Remedial Education	August 23, 2001
Weston, Martha Louise	557435	License Revoked	August 14, 2001

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**DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE #</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE OF ACTION</u>
Williams, Vernon J.	613957	Remedial Education	June 14, 2001
Wilson, Joyce Williford	607256	License Revoked	August 14, 2001
Wordlaw, Dorothy Jean	590275	Warning w/Stipulations	July 19, 2001

**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>
Ancy, Carolyn Collins	253367	August 20, 2001
Aylett, Michael Day	655544	August 31, 2001
Bailey, Kimberly Kieke	647425	August 27, 2001
Bullington, Jr., Tom Wilson	253006	September 13, 2001
Kennedy, Peggy S. Byrd	239682	July 19, 2001
Cazalas, Michael Anthony	607423	June 5, 2001
Craig, Velina Faye	631196	September 25, 2001
Dean, Lucy L.	255271	September 7, 2001
Farrell, Mary Louise	571442	September 19, 2001
Frazier, Mary Katherine	673240	June 4, 2001
Frisk, Carol D.	501874	June 26, 2001
Hackett, Rosemary T. P.	428846	September 24, 2001
Harvey, Paula Sue	657887	September 5, 2001
Kallina, Jacqueline C.	616868	July 16, 2001
Lara, Sandra C.	616887	August 1, 2001
Mathews, Weldon Wayne	244328	September 25, 2001
McWherter, Sherry Helene	663423	August 2, 2001
Mosley-Smith, Vickie Lynn	247800	July 30, 2001
Nixon, Vikki	624898	June 19, 2001
Parton, Vicki Lynne	242632	June 13, 2001
Pollock-Pleasants, Chrystin Marion	514724	June 29, 2001
Reyes, Knyvett Jane	578257	June 12, 2001
Rico, Michelle R. (Vinson)	631047	September 6, 2001
Silva, Diana M.	507533	September 19, 2001
Smart, Mary Jane	501942	September 19, 2001
Thornton, Ruth Marie	456278	September 26, 2001
Tvrdy, Gina Marie	608949	June 15, 2001
Vanston, George Edward	244176	July 6, 2001

**Enforcement Department Seeks Remedial Course Developers**

The Enforcement Department of the Board of Nurse Examiners is searching for registered nurses who may be interested in developing remedial education type courses which nurses under Board Orders are required to take to satisfy stipulations. Nurses may be ordered to take courses such as nursing jurisprudence, documentation, medication administration, physical assessment, ethics, pharmacology, and management of the diabetic patient, among others. There is a need for providers to offer any of these courses. There is also a need for providers in all areas of the state.

Applicants should be experienced in education, and should be able to demonstrate their qualifications through their Curriculum Vitae. Applicants will be required to complete forms, course outlines, and reference lists, and submit to the Enforcement Department for review and approval before their name will be added to our list of providers. All providers will be required to meet a minimum standard in their course outlines, and to submit to quality assurance reviews. Any interested persons may contact Jeanne Jacobson at 512-305-6861 for questions or to obtain application materials.

## Insufficient Funds

As of October 8, 2001, 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>
Allen, Julie Ann	623827
Edgar, Mildred A	509650
Meyers, Stephanie	655919
Quillin, Rhonda	238758

### Have you moved lately?

Rule §217.7(b) requires RNs in Texas to notify the Board in writing within 10 days of a change of address, providing the new address and the RN's license number. Some RNs have had their licenses revoked because the BNE had no way to notify them of a pending investigation and/or subsequent Board orders.

## Change of Address

<b>Last Name:</b>	_____
<b>First Name:</b>	_____
<b>Middle Name:</b>	_____
<b>SSN:</b>	___ / ___ / ___
<b>RN#</b>	_____
<b>Today's Date:</b>	_____

#### 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

### *"The Impact of Regulatory Changes on Advanced Practice Nursing"* Houston - November 8, 2001

The BNE presents a jurisprudence workshop on Advanced Practice Nursing. This workshop will provide Advanced Practice Nurses and other interested parties with the most current information regarding the Nursing Practice Act, professional nursing rules and regulations, and other pertinent regulatory issues. Revisions to BNE Rule 221 Advanced Practice Nurses and Rule 222 Advanced Practice Nurses and Limited Prescriptive Authority will be discussed in depth with application of case studies to facilitate comprehension of key concepts.

#### *Registration Information*

Brochures and registration forms will be available and pre-registration will be 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 six 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)

#### **2002 Workshop Schedule**

Mark your calendars! The tentative\* 2002 workshop schedule is presented below. All workshops are nursing jurisprudence/ "Overview of Current Regulations: A Foundation for Safe RN Practice" programs. For registration information, please see the preceding paragraph.

<u>City</u>	<u>Date</u>
Corpus Christi .....	January
San Antonio .....	February
Nacogdoches .....	March
Midland .....	April
Austin .....	May
Dallas .....	June
Ft. Worth .....	June
Amarillo .....	July
Houston .....	August

\* Schedule is subject to change and specific dates will be released as facilities are secured.

## **BNE HELPFUL NUMBERS**

**MAIN NUMBER.....(512) 305-7400**

- 24 Hour Access
- License Verification
- General Information

### **OPERATIONS**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.....(512) 305-6809**

- License Renewals
- Endorsement/Reciprocity
- Continuing Education for RNs

**ACCOUNTING SERVICES.....(512) 305-6853**

- Returned checks
- Refunds
- Debits

**SALES OF LISTS.....(512) 305-6848**

- Computerized RN mailing lists or labels
- Publications

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

**WEB Address.....www.bne.state.tx.us**

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

**ENFORCEMENT.....(512) 305-6838**

- Complaint and disciplinary action inquiries
- Violations of NPA rules and regulations
- Monitoring of disciplined RNs

### **PROFESSIONAL NURSING**

**ADVANCED PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6843**

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

- Initial Authorization to Practice
- Prescriptive Authority

**EDUCATION & EXAM.....(512) 305-6818**

- RN/APN nursing programs
- Distance Education Initiatives
- NCLEX-RN applications
- Graduate Nurse permits
- Declaratory orders

**NURSING PRACTICE.....(512) 305-6844**

- Nursing practice issues
- Legislation
- Workshop Information



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 - 2001

**October 11-12**

Meeting 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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