

SIMAS & ASSOCIATES

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Sacramento Office

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GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018

DWO	JL 02 2018 C/LEGAL U		Name		FAX NO.	PHONE
EPARTME	To:	George Parisotto . Division of Workers Compensation			510-286-0687	
	FROM:	TRACY L MONASTERIO ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTAN Simas & Associates, Ltd. Sacramento Office		ſ	(916) 789-9801	(916) 789-9800
	Re:	RE: Hoang Mai Thi Vu				
	NUMBER OF PAGES: (WITH COVER SHEET)		0	ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW: VIA USPS		
	THANK YOU.		л. У			

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY: THE STATEMENTS UPON AND ANY DOCUMENTS INCLUDED IN THIS FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS CONFIDENTIAL, PRIVILEGED AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. THIS INFORMATION IS INTENDED TO BE FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE NAMED ADDRESSEE, IF YOU ARE NOT THE ADDRESSEE, NOTE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR USE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS TRANSMITTAL IS PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS FACSIMILE IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US AT 916-789-9800 (COLLECT) SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE FOR THE RETRIEVAL OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS AT NO COST TO YOU. THANK YOU.

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Steven L. Simas Daniel J. Tatick Michael J. Bridge

— Of Counsel — Heather F.C. Hoganson

July 2, 2018

SACRAMENTO SAN DIEGO SAN JOSE SAN LUIS OBISPO

George Parisotto Administrative Director Division of Workers' Compensation Legal Unit 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, California 94612

Hearing Request Administrative Director Division of Workers' Compensation 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1800 Oakland, California 94612

Hearing Request Office of the Director Anti-Fraud Unit 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, California 94612

Re: Notice of Provider Suspension Hoang Mai Thi Vu Notice of Appeal and Appearance and Request for Clarification

Dear Mr. Parisotto:

This letter is to appeal the Notice of Provider Suspension issued to our client dated June 22, 2018 (see attached). Please note that our client did not receive this letter until approximately June 28, 2018.

North Pointe Business Centre 3835 North Freeway Blvd., Ste. 228, Sacramento, CA 95834

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL 510.286.0687



VIA U.S. MAIL

VIA U.S. MAIL

George Parisotto Administrative Director July 2, 2018 Page 2

Notice of Appearance of Counsel

Please direct all correspondence to our law firm as Ms. Vu's legal counsel:

Steven L. Simas Daniel J. Tatick Simas & Associates, Ltd. 3835 N. Freeway Blvd., Suite 228 Sacramento, California 95834 Tel. 916.789.9800 Fax 916.789.9801 info@simasgovlaw.com

Request for Clarification

Our client is somewhat puzzled by this Notice of Provider Suspension as she is not presently, nor has been recently, a provider in the workers' compensation system. So we are appealing in part to find this out and to clarify as set forth below.

Grounds for Appeal

We have two main grounds for appeal:

- Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1) provides that the Administrative Director suspends a licensee/provider when their license is suspended or revoked. In this case, Ms. Vu's licensing action by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians as the result of a Default Decision pursuant to Government Code section 11520 which is not addressed by the Labor Code.
- 2. As the suspension is premised upon the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians' default decision, the decision should be modified and limited only to her practice as a licensed vocational nurse and not any other license. In other words, she should be able to continue to serve as a provide as a registered nurse.

George Parisotto Administrative Director July 2, 2018 Page 3

Supplemental Information

Given the tight timeframe to appeal, we request additional time to present supplemental information until July 11, 2018.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your response. Please contact me or our Paralegal Virginia Lambing (vlambing@simasgovlaw.com) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Simas Simas & Associates, Ltd.

SLS:ms

cc: Hoang Mai Thi Vu (via e-mail) Daniel Tatick, Esq. (via e-mail) Virginia Lambing, Paralegal (via e-mail)

PROOF OF SERVICE

Notice of Provider Suspension - Workers' Compensation (Hoang Mai Thi Vu)

The undersigned declares:

I am over the age of eighteen years, not a party to this action, and my business address is 3835 North Freeway Blvd, Suite 228, Sacramento, CA 95834.

On July 2, 2018, I served the following documents:

July 2, 2018 letter – Hoang Mai Thi Vu: Notice of Appeal and Appearance and Request for Clarification

on the interested parties in said action by transmitting a true copy thereof addressed as follows in the manner indicated below:

George Parisotto Administrative Director Division of Workers' Compensation Legal Unit 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, California 94612

Hearing Request Administrative Director Division of Workes' Compensation 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1800 Oakland, California 94612

Hearing Request Office of the Director Anti-Fraud Unit 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, California 94612

X By Mail: I deposited an envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the United States mail at Sacramento, California. I am familiar with the mail collection practices of the law offices of Simas & Associates, Ltd, and pursuant to those practices the envelope(s) would be deposited with the United States Postal Service the same day.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct; same was executed at Sacramento, California on July 2, 2018.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION LEGAL UNIT 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, California 94612 Tel (510) 286 -7100 Fax (510) 286-0687 EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor



June 22, 2018

Hoang Mai Thi Vu 335 El Cajon Drive San Jose, CA 95111

NOTICE OF PROVIDER SUSPENSION - WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Dear Ms. Vu:

The Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) is required by Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1)(C) to suspend you from participation in the California workers' compensation system because your license, certification, or approval to provide health care services has been surrendered or revoked. Enclosed are copies of the documents relied upon by the Administrative Director as the basis for taking this action.

Your suspension will start 30 calendar days after the date of mailing of this notice, unless you submit a written request for a hearing, which will stay the suspension pending the outcome of the hearing. Your request must be made within 10 calendar days of the date of mailing of this notice. If you do not request a hearing within the 10-day time limit, you will be suspended from participation in the California workers' compensation system pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 8, section 9788.2(b).

Your request for a hearing must contain:

- Your current mailing address;
- The legal and factual reasons as to why you do not believe Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1) is applicable to you; and
- Your original signature or the original signature of your legal representative.

The scope of the hearing is limited to whether or not Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1) is applicable to you. The Administrative Director is required to suspend you unless you provide proof in the hearing that Labor Code section 139.21(a)(1) does not apply.

Your original request for a hearing and one copy of the request must be filed with the Administrative Director. Additionally, you must also serve one copy of the request for a hearing on the DWC Legal Unit. The addresses for the Administrative Director and the Legal Unit are:

Page 1

Hoang Mai Thi Vu June 22, 2018

Hearing Request Administrative Director Division of Workers' Compensation 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1800 Oakland, California 94612

and

Hearing Request Department of Industrial Relations Officer of the Director Anti-Fraud Unit 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, CA 94612

The original and all copies of the request for hearing must have a proof of service attached. A sample proof of service, containing all necessary elements, can be found on the DWC website at https://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/forms.html, under the category "Court Forms," and then "Proof of Service." The Administrative Director is required to hold your hearing within 30 days of the receipt of your written request. The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer appointed by the Administrative Director. You will be notified shortly after the receipt of your request of the date and time of the hearing.

For more information about the suspension procedure, please refer to Provider Suspension Regulations, California Code of Regulations, title 8, sections 9788.1 - 9788.4, which can be found on the DWC website at http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/DWCPropRegs/Provider-Suspension-Procedure/Clean-Version/Text-of-Regulations.pdf.

Sincerely,

George Parisotto Administrative Director Division of Workers' Compensation

Encls:

-Default Decision and Order - In the Matter of the Accusation Against Hoang Mai Thi Vu (Case No. 4302017000090), Before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, California Department of Consumer Affairs

-Accusation - In the Matter of the Accusation Against Hoang Mai Thi Vu (Case No. 4302017000090), Before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, California Department of Consumer Affairs -Declaration of Socorro Tongco in Support of Notice of Provider Suspension -Proof of Service

Page 2



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(FAX)9167899801

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1	3. On or about December 28, 2016, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class					
2	Mail copies of the Accusation No. 4302017000090, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense,					
3	Request for Discovery, and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6,					
4	and 11507.7) at Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions					
5	Code section 136, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board. Respondent's					
6	address of record was and is: 335 El Cajon Drive, San Jose, CA 95111.					
•7	4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of					
8	Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c) and/or Business & Professions Code section					
9	124:					
10	5. On or about January 25, 2017, the aforementioned documents were returned by the					
11	U.S. Postal Service marked "Return to Sender - Unable to Forward."					
12	6. Government Code section 11506(c) states, in pertinent part:					
13	(c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent					
[•] 14	files a notice of defense and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its					
15	discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.					
16	7. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon her of					
17	the Accusation, and therefore waived her right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No.					
18	4302017000090.					
19	8. California Government Code section 11520(a) states, in pertinent part:					
20	(a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at					
21	the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other ovidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without					
22	any notice to respondent					
23	9. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds					
24	Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on the					
25	relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Evidence Packet in this matter, as well as					
26	taking official notice of all the investigatory reports, exhibits and statements contained therein on					
27	file at the Board's offices regarding the allegations contained in Accusation No. 4302017000090,					
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	(HOANO MAI THI VU) DEPAULT DECISION & ORDER Case No. 4302017000090					

	· · ·						
1	finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 4302017000090, are separately and						
2	severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.						
3	10. Taking official notice of its own internal records, pursuant to Business and						
4	Professions Code section 125.3, it is hereby determined that the reasonable costs for Investigation						
5	and Enforcement is \$962.50 as of February 2, 2017.						
б	DETERMINATION OF ISSUES						
7	1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Hoang Mai Thi Vu has subjected						
8	her Vocational Nurse License No. VN 240745 to discipline.						
9	2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.						
10	3. The Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians is authorized to revoke						
11	Respondent's Vocational Nurse License based upon the following violations alleged in the						
12	Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Evidence						
13	Packet in this case.:						
14	a. Business and Professions Code section 2878.8 (discipline by another state agency).						
15	<u>ORDER</u>						
6	IT IS SO ORDBRED that Vocational Nurse License No. VN 240745, issued to Respondent						
7	Hoang Mai Thi Vu, is revoked.						
8	Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a						
9	written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within						
o	seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may						
1	vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.						
2	This Decision shall become effective on MAY 0 3 2017						
;	It is so ORDEREDMAR 0 2 2017						
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	FOR THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL						
5	NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS						
'							
	•						
_	(HOANG MAI THI VU) DEFAULT DECISION & ORDER Case No. 430201700009						



P.012/018

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N					
1 KAMALA D. HARRIS Altorney General of California					
2 DIANN SOKOLOFF Supervising Deputy Attomey General					
3 KIM M. SETTLES Deputy Attorney General					
4 State Bar No. 116945 1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor					
5 P.O. Box 70550					
6 Telephone: (510) 622-2138 Facsimile: (510) 622-2270					
7 E-mail: kim.settles@doj.ca.gov					
Attorneys for Complainant 8					
BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
11					
In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. VN-4302017000090					
HOANG MAI THI VU 335 El Cajon Drive San Jose, CA 95111					
14 Vocational Nurse License No. VN 240745	-				
6 Respondent.					
Complainant alleges:					
PARTIES					
1. Kameka Brown, PhD, MBA, NP (Complainant) brings this Acousation solely in her					
official capacity as the Excoutive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric					
Technicians, Department of Consumer Affairs.	٠				
2. On or about March 10, 2009, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Payuhiniria	1				
Technicians issued Vocational Nurse License Number VN 240745 to Hoang Mai Thi Vu					
(Respondent). The Vocational Nurse License expired on April 30, 2014,					
JURISDICTION					
3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psych	datric ·				
.Technicians (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following	Ig laws,				
All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated	4				
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(HOANG MAI THI VU) ACG	USATION				
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Section 2875 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in periment 4. part, that the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians ("Board") may discipline the holder of a vocational nurse license for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2875) of the Vocational Nursing Practice Act.

Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the expiration of a license shall 5. 5 not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within б which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

COST RECOVERY

Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the б. 9 administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of 10 the licensing set to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and 11 enforcement of the case, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to new being 12 renewed or reinstated. If a case actiles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be 13 included in a stipulated settlement. 14

STATUTORY PROVISION

Section 2878.8 of the Code states: 7.

"The board may dony any application or may suspend or revoke any license issued under this 17 chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act] based upon the denial of licensure, suspension, 18 restriction, or other disciplinary action of a license by another state, any other government agency, 19 or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the finding 20 shall be conclusive evidence of that action provided that, if from another state, the findings 21 establish an act which if committed in California would be grounds for discipline." 22

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Discipline by Another State Agency)

Respondent has subjected her license to disciplinary action under Code section 2878.8, 8. 25 in that on or about May 16, 2016, in a disciplinary action before the Board of Registered Nursing 26 ("Board"), case number 2016-529, the Board adopted a stipulated settlement related to 27 Respondent's registered nuise license. The stipulation constitutes a record of discipline and 28

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(BOANG MAITHI VU) ACCUSATION

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(FAX)9167899801

Respondent's registered nurse license was revoked, the revocation was stayed, and Respondent's license was placed on probation for three years, with standards terms and conditions.

9. The circumstances of the disciplinary action before the Board of Registered Nursing are as follows:

On or about April, 2014, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse administrator, with 5 the responsibility to oversee the operation of Blwyn Chablis, a residential adult community care 6 facility for adults with developmental disabilities, in Livermore, California. On or about April 11, 7 2014, Patient I was discharged from Valley Care Health System with discharge orders that 8 9 included a physician's order for a .75 mg Scopolamine patch every 72 hours. The pharmacy provided a 1.5 Scopolamine patch. Respondent spoke to the discharge nurse and was instructed 10 to "fold the patch in half." A 1.5 Scopolamine patch was administered to Patient 1 on April 12 11 and 15, 2014. On April 12, 2015, Petient I's physician faxed an order to administer a ,75 12 Scopolanine patch to Patient 1, "wher available," On April 18, 2014, Patient 1 was admitted to 13 Vallay Care Health System for uncontrolled seizures. On April 25, 2014, a registered muse 14 ovorheard that Patient 1 had been given an incorrect dose of Scopolamine and so informed 15 Respondent. Respondent admitted that she told everyone to fold the 1.5 mg Scopolamine patch in 16 half and administer it to Patient J. Respondent failed to ensure that the Scopolamine was safely 17 administered to Patient 1. Respondent was charged with gross negligence and incompetence in 18 violation of Business and Professions Code motion 2761, subdivision (a). 19

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters alloged in this
 Accusation and that following the hearing, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric
 Technicians issue a decision:

Rovoking or suspending Vocational Nurse License Number VN 240745, issued to
 Hoang Mai Thi Vu;

Ordering Hoang Mai Thi Vu to pay the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric
 Technicians the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to
 Business and Professions Code section 125.3;

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(HOANG MAI THI VU) ACCUSATION

• : Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 3. ,1 EAMILIA EROWN, PhD, MBA, NP Executive Officer Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Department of Consumer Affairs State of California Complainant DATED: Ģ \$F2015900611 90728161.400 B (HOANG MAITHI VU) ACCUSATION ,

Declaration of Socorro Tongco (in Support of Notice of Provider Suspension)

I. Socorro Tongco, hereby declare and state as follows:

I make this declaration of my own personal knowledge and if called to testify, I could and 1. would testify competently to the matters stated herein.

I am employed by the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations 2. ("Department"), Office of the Director, as a Special Investigator. I have been an investigator with the Department since 2006. I make this Declaration in support of the "Notice of Provider Suspension - Workers' Compensation" issued by the Acting Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, attached herein.

3. As part of my duties as a Special Investigator, I have access to investigative tools and internet-based information databases such as Thomson Reuters Clear, and LexisNexis Accurint. These database resources provide access to public and non-public records that we use as necessary, for purposes of our legal work and representation of the Department in workers' compensation cases and in other litigation, to locate individuals, uncover assets, and verify identities.

4. On or about June 14, 2018, I noted the address of record for Hoang Mai This Vu with the State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians as: 335 El Cajon Drive San Jose, CA 95111.

On or about June 14, 2018, I noted the address of record for Hoang Mai Thi Vu with the 5. State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, Board of Registered Nursing as: 1833 Loch Ness Way San Jose, CA 95121.

On or about June 14, 2018, I ran a search on Ms. Vu Lexis Nexis Accurint database. The 6. searches provided the following information: Hoang Mai Thi Vu is associated with an address in San Jose, CA (I will not state the address so as to not reveal Ms. Vu's home address).

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 14th day of June, 2018, in Oakland, California.

Socorro Tongco Socorro Tongco

	·/
	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL (C.C.P. section 1013(a), 2015.5)
3	1515 Clay Street 18th Floor Oakland California 04612
5	I served the following document(s):
6 7 8 9	 Notice of Provider Suspension - Workers' Compensation Default Decision and Order - In the Matter of the Accusation Against Hoang Mai Thi Vu (Case No. 4302017000090), Before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, California Department of Consumer Affairs Accusation - In the Matter of the Accusation Against Hoang Mai Thi Vu (Case No. 4302017000090), Before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, California Department of Consumer Affairs
10	Declaration of Socorro Tongco in Support of Notice of Provider Suspension
11	on the following person(s) at the following address(es):
12 13	Hoang Mai Thi Vu 335 El Cajon Drive San Jose, CA 95111
14 15	Hoang Mai Thi Vu 1833 Loch Ness Way San Jose, CA 95121
16 17 18	Hoang Mai Thi Vu 640 Lewis Road San Jose, CA 95111
19	The document(s) was/were served by the following means:
20	[X] (BY U.S. CERTIFIED MAIL) I enclosed the document(s) in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the person(s) at the address(es) listed above and:
21	[X] Placed the envelope or package for collection and mailing, following our ordinary business
22	practices. I am readily familiar with the firm's practice for collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice, on the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and
23	mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the U.S. Postal Service, in a sealed envelope or package with the postage fully prepaid.
24	
25 26	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of State of California that the above is true and correct.
27	Executed on June 22, 2018, at Oakland, California.
28	Catty FUNTA-LAM
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1	Scanned by CamScanner

