

BEFORE THE ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF

)

) PETITION FOR

SANDRA G. ANDREWS WALKER

MSN, RN, CNS

)

DECLARATORY RULING

LICENSE NO. 1-023160

Petitioner.

)

)

ORDER

Comes now the Alabama Board of Nursing, by and through its Executive Officer, N. Genell Lee, RN, MSN, JD, and issues the following ruling:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Pursuant to *Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code*, § 610-X-9-.07(1)(c) effective January 1, 2005, qualifications for approval to practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) require certification by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board.
2. On December 31, 2006, Petitioner's approval to practice as a CNS lapsed.
3. On December 7, 2006, the Petitioner, Sandra G. Andrews Walker, MSN, RN, CNS, submitted to the Alabama Board of Nursing a request for a declaratory ruling seeking relief from the Board's qualifications for approval to practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist.
4. Specifically, Petitioner seeks relief from the Board's requirement for certification by a national certifying agency recognized by the Board in the clinical specialty consistent with educational preparation and appropriate to the area of practice.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Alabama Board of Nursing has the authority to issue this declaratory ruling pursuant to *Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code*, § 610-X-1-.09.
2. The Petitioner is substantially affected by *Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code*, § 610-X-9-.07(1)(c), which effective January 1, 2007, would deem Sandra G. Andrews Walker, MSN, RN, CNS, unqualified for approval to practice as a CNS.

RULING

The Alabama Board of Nursing has the authority, pursuant to *Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code* § 610- X-1-.09 to grant relief from a Board rule upon receipt of sufficient proof with respect to the applicability of the rule to any person or particular fact situation.

The Petition for a Declaratory Ruling is hereby granted until July 31, 2007. The Petitioner may use the designation of CNS until July 31, 2007 at which time Petitioner must establish proof of national certification as a Clinical Nurse Specialist.

DONE and **ORDERED** this the 19th day of January 2007.

ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

**N. GENELL LEE, RN, MSN, JD
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**