## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Registered Nurse

AGREED

License Number 656312

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issued to ALICE MAWUENYO WORKEY

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALICE MAWUENYO WORKEY, Registered Nurse License Number 656312, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on March 28, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was served on Respondent and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Korle-bu Nursing Center, Korle-bu, Ghana, on February 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 12, 1998.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/1998 - 05/2010

Staff Nurse

St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital

Houston, Texas

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executive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

06/2010 - Present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for eleven (11) years and six (6) months.
- 7. On or about February 15, 2010, through February 16, 2010, while employed with St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent failed to notify the physician that Patient Medical Record Number 01200762 had a voluminous output of fluid draining from the Jackson Pratt (JP) drain in the amount of 430 millimeters (ml). Respondent's conduct deprived the patient of timely detection and intervention by the physician which may have been required to stabilize the patient's condition.
- 8. On or about February 19, 2010, while employed with St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent failed to obtain a Prograf level from Patient Medical Record Number 02671377 and subsequently failed to administer Prograf, a medication which may be given to transplant patients to avoid rejection of the organ. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from clinical care decisions formulated based upon incomplete lab results. Additionally, Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to risk of harm from non-efficacious treatment.
- 9. On or about April 29, 2010, while employed with St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent signed off a post-operative order for Patient Medical Record Number 02942771, which did not have a physician's signature. Respondent may have exceeded her scope of practice in that she noted that she was initiating orders which may not have been authorized by the physician.
- 10. On or about April 29, 2010, while employed with St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, Texas, Respondent:
  - Initiated an infusion of Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) on Patient Medical Record Number 02942771 when the patient returned from surgery without a post-operative physician's order;
  - Failed to initiate glucose monitoring of the aforementioned patient during the infusion of the TPN to assure that the blood sugar level was stable; and
  - Failed to ensure that the patient's intravenous (IV) fluid was infusing at the rate of 75cc/hour, as ordered by the physician, which was found to be infusing at 50cc/hour.

Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that improper administration of TPN without medical guidance could have caused electrolyte imbalance in the patient resulting in cardiac arrhythmia, respiratory distress, or even demise.

11. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Ten (10), Respondent denies observing a voluminous output of the patient's JP drain and states that if she had, she would have notified the physician when he was making rounds in the morning. Respondent explains that whoever took the order for the Prograf, failed to enter it into the system, therefore, a label did not print for the Patient Care Assistant (PCA) to draw the Prograf level. Respondent adds that she did not realize the problem until the end of the shift. According to Respondent, Patient Medical Record Number 02942771 was admitted to the floor and the physicians' order scanned before she arrived at work that day. Respondent states that she did not notice that the order was not signed until she was giving report. Respondent asserts that she did not start the TPN running, and states it was already infusing when she got to work, however Respondent states that when she realized it was running at 50cc/hr instead of 75cc/hr, she changed the rate. Respondent states that the PCA did not let her know whether the patient's blood sugar was high or low, therefore, she assumed it was normal.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.555, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
- 3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(M)&(1)(P) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 656312, heretofore issued to ALICE MAWUENYO WORKEY, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §211.1 et seq. and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that, while under the terms of this Order, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a nurse licensure compact privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

### IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, documentation of care, principles of nursing ethics, confidentiality, professional boundaries, and the Board's Disciplinary Sanction Policies regarding: Sexual Misconduct; Fraud, Theft and Deception; Nurses with Substance Abuse, Misuse, Substance Dependency, or other Substance Use Disorder; and Lying and Falsification. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT'S successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses

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stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment only if the course is not being offered by a pre-approved provider. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT'S successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension. In order to receive credit for completion of this program, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this program to the Board's office, to the attention of Monitoring. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING AND RESPONDENT MUST WORK IN SUCH SETTING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS PER MONTH UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT'S license(s). RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and

all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (6) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.
- (7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT'S capability to practice nursing. These reports shall be completed by the nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month period for one (1) year of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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# RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and disciplinary sanction, including revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 15th day of May	, 20 <u><i>j</i> 2_</u> .
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ALICE MAWUENYO WORKEY RE	esnondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of SEAL

SARAH E ADEYEYE

Notary Public in

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012, by ALICE MAWUENYO WORKEY, Registered Nurse License Number 656312, and said Order is final.

Effective this 12th day of June, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Barria a. Thomas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board