BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of Registered
License Number 594021

§ §

AGREED

issued to LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES

§ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES, Registered License Number 594021, 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, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on February 11, 2012, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

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, 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 Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia, on May 1, 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 22, 1993.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

05/93 - 05/95

RN

MD Anderson Cancer Center

Houston, Texas

05/95 - 07/98

RN

Nursing Management Services

Norfolk, Virginia

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

07/98 - 10/00 RN Methodist Medical Center Dallas, Texas 10/00 - 02/02 RN Doctor's Hospital Dallas, Texas 02/02 - Present Contract RN Epic Med Staffing, Inc. Plano, Texas Unknown - Present Staff Nurse Season's Hospice and Palliative Care Denton, Texas

- 7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Contract RN with Epic Med Staffing, Inc., Plano, Texas, and on assignment with Baylor Medical Center at Irving, Irving, Texas, and had been in this position for eight (8) years and three (3) months.
- 8. On or about May 9, 2010 through May 10, 2010, while employed as a Contract nurse with Med Staffing, Inc., Plano, Texas, and on assignment with Baylor Medical Center at Irving, Irving, Texas, Respondent failed to adequately assess and timely intervene when Patient Medical Record Number 113466031, began to experience very low blood glucose levels ranging from 41mg/dl at 2300 pm and less than 20 mg/dl at 0300 am. On May 10, 2010 at approx 0800, Patient Medical Record Number 113466031, became unresponsive and was diagnosed by Neurology to be metabolic in origin from prolonged hypoglycemia and the patient expired on May 21, 2010. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm from complications due to undiagnosed and, consequently, untreated disease processes which may have contributed to her demise.
- 9. On or about May 9, 2010 through May 10, 2010, while employed as a Contract nurse with Med Staffing, Inc., Plano, Texas, and on assignment with Baylor Medical Center at Irving, Irving, Texas, Respondent failed to adequately document nursing interventions performed when Patient Medical Record Number 113466031, began to experience very low blood glucose levels ranging from 41mg/dl at 2300 pm and less than 20 mg/dl at 0300 am. On May 10, 2010, he became unresponsive and was diagnosed by Neurology to be metabolic in origin from prolonged hypoglycemia. The patient expired on May 21, 2010. Respondent's documentation of the patient's condition resulted in an inaccurate medical record which did not provide subsequent care givers with enough information to provide care givers who relied on the information while providing care to the patient and my have contributed to the patient's demise.
- 10. On or about May 9, 2010 through May 10, 2010, while employed as a Contract nurse with Med Staffing, Inc., Plano, Texas, and on assignment with Baylor Medical Center at Irving, Irving, Texas, Respondent failed to follow physician's orders and hypoglycemic management protocol during her shift, when Patient Medical Record Number 113466031, began to experience low blood glucose levels ranging from 41mg/dl at 2300 pm and less than 20

mg/dl at 0300 am. On May 10, 2010, he became unresponsive and was diagnosed by Neurology to be metabolic in origin from prolonged hypoglycemia. The patient expired on May 21, 2010. Respondent's inadequate documentation did not provide the physician complete information on which to base his care and may have contributed to the patient's demise.

In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through (10), Respondent states, on the night in question, the blood glucose was low at midnight, but not critically low and I treated it with an ampule of D50, when I repeated the fingerstick an hour later, it was within normal limits. I drew morning labs somewhere between 3 and 4 am, I got a call from the laboratory with a critically low blood glucose level by fingerstick and it was within normal limits. I passed this information on in report at 7am to the oncoming nurse.

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.
- 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)(C),(1)(D),(1)(G), (1)(M)&(1)(P) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)&(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 594021, heretofore issued to LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 594021, previously issued to LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES, to practice professional nursing in Texas is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of two (2) years with the suspension STAYED and Respondent is hereby placed on PROBATION for two (2) years with the following agreed terms of probation:

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 the 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.

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in physical assessment. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. 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. RESPONDENT SHALL perform physical assessments on live patients in a clinical setting for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of physical assessment only and shall be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of physical assessment only and shall be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. To be approved, the course shall cover all systems of the body. Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. 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 at the following

Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length of classroom time. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation.

 RESPONDENT SHALL cause the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Board's office 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 at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.
- (5) 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: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

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 PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) 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:

- (6) 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.
- (7) 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

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the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.

(8) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency; however, although Respondent may not provide home based care, employment in the inpatient treatment unit of Season's Hospice and Palliative Care, Denton, Texas, is acceptable for purposes of completing the terms of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(9) For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, who is on the premises. The supervising nurse is not required to be on the same unit or ward as RESPONDENT, but should be on the facility grounds and readily available to provide assistance and intervention if necessary. The supervising nurse shall have a minimum of two (2) years experience in the same or similar practice setting to which the Respondent is currently working. RESPONDENT SHALL work only regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency; however, although Respondent may not provide home based care, employment in the inpatient treatment unit of Season's Hospice and Palliative Care, Denton, Texas, is acceptable for purposes of completing

the terms of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

- (10) RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area for one (1) year of employment as a nurse. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.
- (11) Should RESPONDENT choose to work in an area of practice other than home health, 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 two (2) year(s) of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that if during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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 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 day of Jan	, 20/_2_
Jus Ellin Chal	
LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES, Resp.	ondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25 day of June, 20 12.

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Notary Public in and for the State of

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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 25th day of June, 2012, by LANIECE ELAINE CHARLES, Registered License Number 594021, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of August, 2012.

Barria a. Ohm

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board