



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse                    §        AGREED  
License Number 235478                                §  
issued to PEGGY S. HEMBREE                       §        ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PEGGY S. HEMBREE, Registered Nurse License Number 235478, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 15, 2011, 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 Kilgore College, Kilgore, Texas on June 1, 1975. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 15, 1976.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

3/74 - 11/76	Staff Nurse	Dr. Jack Elder
		Calgary, TX

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

11/77 - 5/83	Staff Nurse	Good Shepherd Medical Center Longview, TX
1983 - unknown	Charge Nurse	East Texas Medical Center Tyler, TX
6/83 - 8/83	Staff Nurse	Texas Home Health, Inc. Longview, TX
9/83 - 12/84	Regional Director	Visiting Nurses of East Texas Longview, TX
12/84 - 10/86	Staff Nurse	Good Shepherd Medical Center Longview, TX
10/86 - 7/88	Staff Nurse	University of Texas Health Center Tyler, TX
7/88 - 4/97	Staff Nurse	East Texas Medical Center Tyler, TX
4/97 - 3/98	Staff Nurse	MileStone Healthcare Dallas, TX
3/98 - 6/10	Staff Nurse	East Texas Medical Center Tyler, TX
7/10 - present		

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a staff nurse with East Texas Medical Center, Tyler, Texas and had been in this position for two (2) years and three (3) months.
7. On or about June 1, 2008 and June 3, 2008, while employed as a Speciality Case Manager with East Texas Medical Center Physicians Clinic, Tyler, Texas, Respondent accessed her husband's medical records without authorization. Respondent's conduct violated patient confidentiality and was a violation of The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) privacy regulations.

8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7) states that she certainly understands the gravity of the situation and the lapse in judgment on her part and attributes this to her significant losses in the past 18 months. Respondent states that she only hopes that someone understands that when you just watched your brother die of cancer, and your soon-to-be ex husband who has a history of being untruthful tells you he has liver cancer, there are decisions that need to be made. Respondent states that she needed to have the truth to make the decision affecting not only her situation, but her then-husband's medical options. Respondent states that she made a bad decision and her ex-husband has used this to continue to punish her and attempt to destroy her career.
9. Formal Charges were filed on November 9, 2011 and mailed to Respondent on November 10, 2011.

### 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)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(E) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(C).
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 235478, heretofore issued to PEGGY S. HEMBREE, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION & FINE, 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 State of Texas 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 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.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>*

(2) 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. *Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>*

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within 45 days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 7 day of March, 2012.

Peggy S. Hembree  
PEGGY S. HEMBREE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7 day of March, 2012.

SEAL

[Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 7th day of March, 2012, by PEGGY S. HOMBRE, Registered Nurse License Number 235478, and said Order is final.



Effective this 13th day of March, 2012.

*Katherine A. Thomas*

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director on behalf  
of said Board