BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



Texas Board of Nursing.

Texas Board of Nursing.

Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

AGREED

License Number 201926

8

issued to JAMONICA LAVONNE WARD

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boz considered the matter of JAMONICA LAVONNE WARD, Vocational Nurse License Number 201926, 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 April 5, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, 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 representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from South Plains College, Levelland, Texas, on November 28, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on December 20, 2005.

5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

08/2005 - 12/2006	LVN	Lubbock Hospitality Home Nursing and Rehabilitation Lubbock, Texas
12/2006 - 04/2006	Unknown	
04/2006 - 09/2008	LVN	Cuidado Casero Lubbock, Texas
10/2008 - 08/2009	LVN	Grace House of Lubbock Lubbock, Texas
08/2009 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Grace House of Lubbock, Lubbock, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately ten (10) months.
- 7. On or about August 8, 2009, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Grace House of Lubbock, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent instructed a coworker to throw away one (1) Hydrocodone tablet belonging to Patient MD to make the narcotic count correct. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states: I never asked an employee at Grace House to destroy medications.
- 9. On or about August 9, 2009, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Grace House of Lubbock, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent admitted that she falsely documented the administration of Hydrocodone to Patient EM to make the narcotic count correct. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record, which was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation while providing care to the patient.
- 10. In response to Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent states: On August 9, 2009, I received an on call regarding House Three (3) medications with a patient in room eight (8) and another patient. The CNA stated to me that the narcotic count was off by one (1) medication over. I asked the CNA if they had given any medication without charting and

also asked if they called the 6-2 shift about the medication. I looked through the medication sign out sheet, when, who and where last documented dosage was given. While going down the list, I remember that while up early at Grace House on another on call regarding a medication refill on patient room #13, I personally saw the 6-2 CNA preparing room #8's medication for administration about 12p. While in the medication room, I informed the CNA that was on 2-10 shift that I was here and present when the medication was given to patient #8 and the 6-2 CNA must have forgot to sign it out. So I personally signed out for the medication, even though I never gave that specific medication to that patient.

- 11. On or about August 9, 2009, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Grace House of Lubbock, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent threw away two (2) Hydrocodone tablets belonging to Patient JM to make the narcotic count correct. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 12. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eleven (11), Respondent states: While in the medication room, CNA x 4 and I found a small white pill. Unable to know who it belonged to, I picked up the med and crushed it and washed it down the sink in the med room in front of CNA x 4, letting them know that if they find any medication, to bring to the nurse to handle. I am truly sorry for the misjudgment of handling of the narcotics.

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, 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§217.11(1)(A)&(D) and 217.12(1)(A),(B), (C),(4),(6)(A),(H)&(10)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 201926, heretofore issued to JAMONICA LAVONNE WARD, 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 A 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 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 <u>not</u> 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 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. 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 at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(3) 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.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

- (4) 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 this workshop may be found at the following web address: http://learningext.com/hives/a0f6f3e8a0/summary.*
- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days 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, 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

VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE 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 the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- (8) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse or 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. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(9) 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 Registered Nurse or Licensed Vocational 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 b day of October

JAMONICA LAVONNE WARD Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

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WHEREF	ORE, PREMISES C	ONSIDERE	D, the Texas	Board of	Nursing does
hereby ratify and adopt th	e Agreed Order that v	was signed or	n the	day of	October,
20 <u>11</u> , by JAMONIC	A LAVONNE WAR	D, Vocationa	al Nurse Licei	nse Numbei	201926, and
said Order is final.					
	Effective this	8th day	of <u>Nov</u>	<u>ember</u>	, 20 <u>11</u> .
	Barri	a.In	tyname'		
	Katherine A. The Executive Direct of said Board	omas, MN, R			