BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



Is on file or is of record in the of States and of Nursing.
Texas Board of Nursing.

Attrum. Collarman

Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 551150 issued to MARIA LILLIAN COOLEY AGREED

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ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARIA LILLIAN COOLEY, Vocational Nurse Licence Number 551150, 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 September 28, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, 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 San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, on October 23, 1988. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing the State of Texas on April 4, 1989.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

04/1989 - 1995

Staff Nurse

University Hospital

Unknown

1996 - 1998

Field Nurse

APC Home Health

Unknown

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1998 - 2000	Field Nurse	Vicky Roy Home Health Unknown
1998 - 2001	RN Consultant	Unknown
1999 - 2001	Staff Nurse Duty Nurse	Rio Grand Regional Hospital Unknown
02/2001 - Present	Owner/ RN Director	Mizpah Adult Day Care Edinburg, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as the Owner/RN Director of Mizpah Adult Day Care, Edinburg, Texas, and had been in this position for five (5) years and four (4) months.
- 7. On or about June 13, 2006, through June 22, 2006, while employed as the Owner/RN Director of Mizpah Adult Day Care, Edinburg, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure the safety of Client MQ when she allowed and/or instructed unlicensed assistive personnel to obtain finger stick blood glucose readings and administer Insulin to the client without appropriate training, client consent, and established policy/protocol. Additionally, Respondent documented administration of Insulin in the client's medical record that was actually administered by other staff. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record, and was likely to injure the client from care provided by unlicensed staff without proper training and clinical experience.
- 8. On or about June 13, 2006, through June 22, 2006, while employed as the Owner/RN Director of Mizpah Adult Day Care, Edinburg, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure that Insulin was stored in a locked, secure environment. Respondent's conduct resulted in an unsafe environment for clients.
- 9. In response to the incidents in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent admits and explains that she was having a very difficult time finding nursing coverage due to the nursing shortage in South Texas. Also, because of her home situation, she was having difficulty getting to work on time. According to Respondent, she was aware that two staff members had administered Insulin to Patient MQ a few times; however, during these times Respondent reminded them that they needed to wait until she arrived at work. Respondent asserts that at no time did she authorize staff to administer Insulin. Respondent states that while it is clear to her that unlicensed staff should not administer Insulin, both staff had much experience giving Insulin to their own family members for years, and that the client was not injured by the choice of the staff, who were only trying to be helpful to a client for whom they had been providing care for years. Respondent admits that the refrigerator which contained medications was without a lock, and states that it is possible that the small lock that was usually utilized had fallen off and had become lost. Respondent concludes that measures that have been taken to correct the situations.

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 violation of Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code §§217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D),(1)(S)&(3)(B) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D)&(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 551150, heretofore issued to MARIA LILLIAN COOLEY, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of REMEDIAL EDUCATION 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 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. Information regarding Board-approved courses in Texas Nursing Jurisprudence may be found at the Board's website 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 <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. The didactic portion of this course shall be a

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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. Information regarding Boardapproved 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 <u>not</u> 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

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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 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. Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.
- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of Five hundred dollars (\$500.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (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.

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.

·	Maria Lillian COOLEY, Respondent	
Sworn to and subscribed before	ore me this <u>13</u> day of <u>OCTOBER</u> , 2011.	
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Signed this 13 day of October, 2011.

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

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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 13th day of October, 2011, by MARIA LILLIAN COOLEY, Vocational Nurse License Number 551150, and said Order is final.



Effective this 18th day of October, 2011.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN Executive Director on behalf

of said Board