BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 124988

issued to ANDREA L JOHNSON

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ANDREA L JOHNSON, and Vocational Nurse License Number 124988, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(10)&(13) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 22, 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 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 Baptist Memorial Hospital System, San Antonio, Texas, on September 8, 1989. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on December 7, 1989.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/1989 - 10/1990 Employment history unknown.

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/1990 - 1999	LVN	Interim Health Care San Antonio, Texas
1999 - 11/2000 Not employed in nursing		
11/2000 - 03/2002	LVN	Interim Health Care Wausau, Wisconsin
03/2002 - 09/2002	LVN	Cedar Ridge Elder Services Schofield, Wisconsin
09/2002 - 05/2006	LVN	PRN Health Services Appleton, Wisconsin
05/2006 - 07/2006	Not employed in nursing	
07/2006 - 03/2007	LVN	Intelistaf Nursing Agency San Antonio, Texas
02/2007 - 09/2008	LVN	Ambulatory Medical Clinic University Health System San Antonio, Texas
09/2008 - 03/2009	LVN	San Antonio Kidney Disease Center San Antonio, Texas
03/2009 - Present	LVN	Maxim Healthcare Nursing Agency San Antonio, Texas
08/2009 - 04/2010	LVN	Spectrum Healthcare Lackland Air Force Base
02/2010 - Present	LVN	TMF Vaccines for Children Program San Antonio, Texas
06/2010 - 07/2010	LVN	Uvalde Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center Uvalde, Texas
10/2010 - 12/2011	LVN	Uvalde Medical and Surgical Associates- Firefly Pediatrics Uvalde, Texas

- 6. On or about June 19, 2010 through July 19, 2010, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Uvalde Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent signed out Lortab on the Individual Control Drug Record for patients but failed to document, or accurately document the administration of the medications in the patient's Medication Administration Records and/or Nurse's Notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients which could result in an overdose.
- 7. On or about June 19, 2010 through July 19, 2010, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Uvalde Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent signed out Lortab from the Individual Control Drug Record for patients but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for the wastage of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
- 8. On or about June 19, 2010 through July 19, 2010, while employed as a Vocational Nurse with Uvalde Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Lortab belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take the precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of medications, and is a violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states: "This allegation was made because the administrator of Uvalde Healthcare was informed by the medication aide that Resident EG did not remember getting medication that night. I spoke with the administrator, via telephone, who asked me about the dose of medication. The medication was properly documented and I didn't know what else to tell her. Unfortunately, these residents are in a long term care facility for various reasons. So, not remembering something done to them, in the middle of the night is not unheard of."
- 10. On or about December 8, 2011, while employed as a vocational nurse with Uvalde Medical and Surgical Associates-Firefly Pediatrics, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent accessed the medical records of patients and co-workers, without written authorization, thus compromising the security of patient information and confidentiality. Respondent's conduct exposed the patients unnecessarily to a risk of harm from disclosure of their confidential medical information without written authorization.
- In response to Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent states: "The administrator called me to question me regarding a parent of a child who wanted to know everyone who accessed their child's records. The question to me was "why a child, who is not a patient of our clinic, would be listed under my login showing I had clicked on the patient's name." Due to the fact that we had 1,300 children, young adults, and some adults in our clinic, the reasonable explanation was I obviously cannot remember every patient by name. Each

morning I checked the ER log on the computer to see if any of our patients sought treatment through the ER, and if so, how they were treated so I can follow up. I explained it was a way for us to track our children due to the parents not always informing us of ER visits. This procedure was done at Dr. Guerrero's request. We were instructed that if the patient was not ours to click right out of the chart. Later the same day, this same person came to talk with me about why there would be adult patients under my login if we are a pediatric clinic. She showed me there was a BRIEF access to my own record, my co-worker's record, and a couple other adults. This is when I told her my co-worker had used my login on past occasions. My co-worker was also terminated because she admitted to using my login information. Her boyfriend's ex-wife's records as on the list as well as a couple of other names she was quite familiar with."

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(s) of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE $\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(D)\&(1)(E)$ and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE $\S217.12(1)(A),(4),(6)(G),(10)(C)\&(11)(B)$.
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against, and Vocational Nurse License Number 124988, heretofore issued to ANDREA L JOHNSON, 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 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 <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.texas.gov/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. 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 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.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00). 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, 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(S) 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:

(5) 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.

- (6) 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.
- (7) 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. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- (8) 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(s) of employment as a nurse.

(9) RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the consumption of alcohol, Nubain, Stadol, Dalgan, Ultram, or other synthetic opiates, and/or the use of controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.

(10) RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for controlled substances, tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram), and alcohol. For the first three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per week. For the next three (3) month period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month. For the next six (6) month period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month. For the remainder of the stipulation period, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) months. All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board.

Specimens shall be screened for at least the following substances:

Amphetamines

Meperidine

Barbiturates

Benzodiazepines

Cannabinoids

Cocaine Ethanol

tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)

Methadone

Methaqualone

Opiates

Phencyclidine

Propoxyphene

A Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation period.

Any positive result for which the nurse does not have a valid prescription or failure to report for a drug screen, which may be considered the same as a positive result, will be regarded as non-compliance with the terms of this Order and may subject the nurse to further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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 violation(s) 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 31 day of 2012.

ANDREA L JOHNSON, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31 day of July, 20/2

ANN R. VELA

Notary Public, State of Texas

My Commission Expires

February 17, 2013

Notary Public in and for the State of

Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 31st day of July, 2012, by ANDREA L JOHNSON, and Vocational Nurse License Number 124988, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of September, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board