BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

§ AGREED

License Number 117462

§

issued to KATHY MARIE JONES

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bc considered the matter of KATHY MARIE JONES, Vocational Nurse License Number 117462, 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 March 28, 2010, 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.
- 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 Navarro College at Mexia, Mexia, Texas, on August 25, 1986. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 20, 1987.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

05/1987-04/1995

LVN II

Mexia State School Mexia, Texas

117462:157

C10

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

04/1995-Present

LVN II

University Texas Medical Branch-Correctional Managed Care, (UTMB-CMC) Galveston, Texas assigned to Texas Department Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Boyd Unit, Teague, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a LVN II with UTMB-CMC, Galveston, Texas, assigned to TDCJ, Boyd Unit, Teague, Texas, and had been in this position for twelve (12) years and two (2) months.
- 7. On or about June 10, 2007, while employed with UTMB-CMC, Galveston, Texas, and assigned to TDCJ, Boyd Unit, Teague, Texas, Respondent failed to complete an adequate focused assessment of Inmate 606459 after the inmate lost consciousness, fell and struck his head causing a laceration after having become dizzy and light-headed. Respondent did not complete the facility's assessment protocols for neurological complaints and for wounds, as required. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from clinical care decisions formulated based upon incomplete assessment information.
- 8. On or about June 10, 2007, while employed with UTMB-CMC, Galveston, Texas, and assigned to TDCJ, Boyd Unit, Teague, Texas, Respondent improperly applied steri-strips to the aforementioned inmate's lacerated head by applying the strips to the hair, instead of shaving the area involved and applying the steri-strips to the skin, and did not document in the medical record that the inmate had a laceration or that the steri-strips were applied. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.
- 9. On or about June 10, 2007, while employed with UTMB-CMC, Galvestion, Texas, and assigned to TDCJ, Boyd Unit, Teague, Texas, Respondent failed to assess and intervene regarding the aforementioned inmate's complaint of having tingling and numbness to his upper extremities and hands after having fallen and struck his head. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from clinical care decisions formulated based upon incomplete assessment information.
- 10. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Nine (9), Respondent states that she remembers getting a call in the clinic that an inmate was on the ground, so she and Ms. Williams, another Vocational Nurse, went to pick him up. The inmate was alert and oriented when they arrived. The guards indicated that he was hit on the back of the head by another inmate causing the fall. The affected inmate was placed on the gurney and was transported to the clinic, where he was then assessed and his vital signs were taken. According to Respondent, they then called the provider on call, and orders were received. Respondent does remember that he had a small cut to the back of his head that they almost missed because it was so small, and she remembers cleaning it but does not recall

applying steri-strips. Respondent states that they would have had to shave his head to apply them and does not remember doing this.

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 $\S 217.11(1)(A),(1)(C),(1)(D),(1)(M)\&(2)(A)$ and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE $\S 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)\&(4)$.
- 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 117462, heretofore issued to KATHY MARIE JONES, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice vocational 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 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 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 is 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 deliver the wallet-sized license issued to KATHY MARIE JONES, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of 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.state.tx.us/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. 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.state.tx.us/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 <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 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.

(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. *Information regarding this workshop may be found at the following web address: http://ncsbn.hivelive.com/hives/a0f6f3e8a0/summary*.

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. 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. 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 (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 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 to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this $\frac{12}{4}$ day of $\frac{12}{4}$, $\frac{12}{4}$.
Kath Marie Jane
KATHY MARIE JONES, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of 10, 20 10.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of 10, 20 10.

Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires

Notary Public in and for the State of 10, 20, 20 10.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 12th day of April, 2010, by KATHY MARIE JONES, Vocational Nurse License Number 117462, and said Order is final.



Effective this 11th day of May, 2010.

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