



In the Matter of

AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 226219

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issued to ALLISON KAYE HEISER

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALLISON KAYE HEISER, Vocational Nurse License Number 226219, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on September 21, 2012.

## 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 North Central Texas College, Gainesville, Texas on December 11, 2009. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on January 14, 2010.

I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document whi is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.

Executive Director of the Board

5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

02/2010 - 12/2011 LVN Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health Sherman, Texas

12/2011 - 02/2012 LVN Viva Pediatrics Dallas, Texas

03/12 - Present Unknown

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas and had been in this position for one year ten months (1 year 10 months).
- 7. On or about December 14, 2011, while employed with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, and performing a home health visit for Patient FM 1069, Respondent may have lacked fitness to practice vocational nursing in that she exhibited impaired behavior while on duty, including, but not limited to, acting confused and incoherent, unable to remember medication administration, and unable to follow direction. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
- 8. On or about December 14, 2011, while employed with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, and Cocaine in that she produced a specimen for a for-cause drug screen which tested positive for Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, and Cocaine. Unlawful possession of Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, and Cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, and Cocaine by a Licensed Vocational Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 9. The Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 10. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

- 11. Respondent admits to the conduct outlined in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), and states that she should not have been at work due to not having enough sleep. Respondent also submitted documentation to the Board that indicates she completed a treatment program at Nexus Recovery Center Inc., Dallas, Texas on July 27, 2012.
- 12. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Findings of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 13. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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 §217.12(5),(10)(A)(D)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 226219, heretofore issued to ALLISON KAYE HEISER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

## ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT, in lieu of the sanction of Revocation under Section 301.453, Texas Occupations Code, SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry

of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) payable to TPAPN.

- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure 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, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result /0/226219:171 - 4 -

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in 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.

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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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

**SEAL** 

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the

Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on 23rd day

of October, 2012, by ALLISON KAYE HEISER, Vocational Nurse License Number 226219, and

said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 9th day of November, 2012.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board