### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Vocational Nurse

§ AGREED

License Number 125328

§

issued to EMERY CALLAWAY LEE

**§** ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boconsidered the matter of EMERY CALLAWAY LEE, Vocational Nurse License Nur 125328, 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 informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on June 26, 2008, 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 informal conference, 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 St. Philips College, San Antonio, Texas, on September 1, 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 - 1997

Unknown

1998 - 2002

Staff Relief

Maxim Staffing Solutions

Nurse

Austin, Texas

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

\*\*Executive Director of the Board\*\*

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2001 - 2006 Charge Nurse Retirement Nursing Center

Austin, Texas

2/2006 - 3/2006 Charge Nurse Walnut Hills Convalescent Center

Austin, Texas

2007 - Present Unknown

6. At the time of the initial incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Charge Nurse with Walnut Hills Convalescent Center, Austin, Texas, and had been in this position for less than two (2) months.

- 7. On or about March 18, 2006, and March 19, 2006, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Walnut Hills Convalescent Center, Austin, Texas, Respondent failed to appropriately assess and intervene regarding the change in condition of Resident Number 26. On March 18, 2006, a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) informed Respondent that when she was preparing the resident for his shower at 1600 hours, he jumped in pain when she moved his right leg. She brought Respondent to the resident's room to assess the resident, and Respondent told the CNA that he would give the resident a pain pill. Tylenol was the only ordered medication for pain; however, Respondent neither documented administration of Tylenol nor documented any Nurse's Notes for that day. The following day, the same CNA again informed Respondent that the resident was still in pain and asked him twice to assess the resident, which he failed to do. The third time she asked Respondent about the resident, Respondent told her that the "morning nurses" were going to "set an appointment" for the resident to have an x-ray the next morning, Monday. When the Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) arrived at the facility, the CNA summoned her to the room of the resident. The ADON assessed the resident and found that the right thigh/hip area was tight and swollen, cool to touch, and the right knee was red and warm to touch. The resident flinched, grimaced, and groaned with slight range of motion of the right lower extremity. The resident was transferred to the Emergency Room at 2245 hours on March 19, 2006. Respondent did not document in the patient's medical record regarding the change in condition until 2330 hours that night. It was later determined that the resident had suffered a fractured right hip which required surgical repair. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record, was neglectful, exposed the patient to the risk of harm from complications of an untreated hip fracture, and resulted in thirty (30) hour delay of medical intervention, including those to treat the resident's significant pain.
- 8. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Number Seven, Respondent states that he worked sixteen (16) hours shifts each day that weekend but he was working as a medication nurse and not as a Charge Nurse, therefore, it was not his responsibility to provide "bed care." According to Respondent, when he assessed the resident on March

18, 2006, he noted "swelling and red blotches on the skin, but no bruises or other indications of any unusual condition," so there was no adverse condition to report. Further, Respondent asserts that there was no "reportable change in condition" when he assessed the resident the next day, at 0700 hours, and he later determined there to be no change in condition when he "immediately assessed" the resident after he was "approached by a CNA." Respondent asserts that there were nurses on other shifts who should have or did assess the resident and they apparently assessed no reportable change in the condition of the resident since the resident was not listed on the "twenty-four (24) hour condition alert report" for either day.

## **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, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D), (1)(M),(1)(P)&(2)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)&(6)(C).
- 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 125328, heretofore issued to EMERY CALLAWAY LEE, 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 REPRIMAND 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 multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice nursing in compact states.

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 multistate licensure 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 and ORDERED that while Respondent is deployed in Iraq and is not working as a nurse, Respondent will place his licence in "inactive" status and the following stipulations outlined in this order will not be required until Respondent returns and requests reactivation.

## IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-sized license issued to EMERY CALLAWAY LEE, to the office of the Texas Board of Nursing within ten (10) days from the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.
- (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) contact 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 Chemical Dependency, 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 <a href="http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.

- (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: <a href="http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html">http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html</a>.
- (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

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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 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: Board-approved courses may be foundthefollowing 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 a course in "Detecting and Preventing Abuse and Neglect ...," a five (5) contact hour workshop presented in various locations by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. In order to receive credit for completion of this workshop, RESPONDENT SHALL SUBMIT the continuing education certificate of completion for this workshop 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 website:

http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/training/jointtraining.cfm or by contacting (512) 438-2201.

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 TWO (2) YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWENTY-FOUR (24) 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) For the first year of employment as a Licensed Vocational Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly supervised by a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Direct supervision requires another professional or vocational nurse to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). The 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) For the remainder of the stipulation period, 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.
- (10) 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 two (2) years of employment as a nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure 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 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 15 day of August, 2008

EMERY CAILAWAY LEE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of august, 20 06

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of 1000

My Commission Expires
April 12, 2012

Approved as to form and substance.

Stephen Jon Moss, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 15 day of August, 2008.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008, by EMERY CALLAWAY LEE, Vocational Nurse License Number 125328, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of September, 2008.

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

of said Board