BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of

AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 141801

§ § ORDER

issued to DEBRA FAYE PHILLIPS

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DEBRA FAYE PHILLIPS, Vocational Nurse License Number 141801, 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)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on March 21, 2013.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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).
- Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this 2. Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- Respondent received a Certificate in Nursing from San Jacinto College North, Houston, 4. Texas, on December 17, 1992. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 25, 1993.
- Respondent's nursing employment history includes: 5.

5/1993 - 3/2003

Unknown

4/2003 - 10/2008

LVN

Southside Pharmacy

Houston, Texas

141801:159

C20.rev

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

11/2007 - Unknown	LVN	ISC Home Health Houston, Texas
12/2007 - 12/2008	LVN	Pravidian Home Health Houston, Texas
1/2009 - 1/2009	Unknown	
2/2009 - 3/2011	LVN	Memorial Home Health Care Houston, Texas
4/2011 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a LVN with Memorial Home Health Care, Houston, Texas and had been in this position for two (2) years.
- 7. On or about February 8, 2011, and February 13, 2011, while employed as a Home Health Nurse with Memorial Home Health Care, Katy, Texas, Respondent failed to properly document patient vital signs in Patient JS's medical record. Respondent's conduct deprived other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.
- 8. On or about February 8, 2011, and February 15, 2011, while employed as a Home Health Nurse with Memorial Home Health Care, Katy, Texas, Respondent failed to properly document patient vital signs in Patient NL's medical record. Respondent's conduct deprived other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.
- 9. On or about March 5, 2011, while employed as a Home Health Nurse with Memorial Home Health Care, Katy, Texas, Respondent failed to properly document patient vital signs in Patient JW's medical record. Respondent's conduct deprived other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.
- 10. In response to Findings of Fact seven (7) through nine (9), Respondent disputes the allegations and states that vital sign records that she created for the patients that she cared for were accurate.
- 11. Formal Charges were filed on October 26, 2012.
- 12. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on October 26, 2012.

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.
- The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B)&(1)(D) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(1)(C).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 141801, heretofore issued to DEBRA FAYE PHILLIPS, 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 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 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. 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 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.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

- (3) 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.
 - (4) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of seven hundred and fifty (\$750.00) dollars. 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.

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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 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 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.

Signed this 4th day of Coul 20_13

DEBRA FAYE PHILLIPS, Respondent

 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 4th day of April, 2013, by DEBRA FAYE PHILLIPS, Vocational Nurse License Number 141801, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of April, 2013.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board