BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

****

In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 243153	§	
issued to VERNA LOU GRACE COOPER	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of VERNA LOU GRACE COOPER, Registered Nurse License Number 243153, 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)(3), 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 May 8, 2013, 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 informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

4. Respondent received a Diploma in Nursing from Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo, Texas on May 1, 1978. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 1, 1978.

5. Respondent's employment history is unknown.

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent's employment history is unknown.

7. On August 5, 2012, Respondent was found guilty of ATTACK BY DOG RESULTING IN SBI, (a third Degree felony offense committed on March 13, 2011) in the 147th District Court, Travis County, Cause Number D-1-DC-11-900175. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was placed on probation for three (3) years. Such conviction has been appealed to the Texas Third Court of Appeals, where such appeal is now pending.

8. Formal Charges were filed on June 6, 2011.

9. Charges were mailed to Respondent on June 6, 2011.

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 §217.12(13).

4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(3), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 243153, heretofore issued to VERNA LOU GRACE COOPER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice 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 LIMITED LICENSE 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(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) While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT provide direct patient care. For the purposes of this Order, direct patient care involves a personal relationship between the Nurse and the client, and includes, but is not limited to: teaching, counseling, assessing the client's needs and strengths, and providing skilled nursing care.

(2) SHOULD RESPONDENT desire to return to a clinical practice setting, which would require her to provide direct patient care, RESPONDENT SHALL petition the Board for such approval, at which time, the RESPONDENT MUST satisfy all then existing requirements for re-issuance of the privilege to provide direct patient care. Further, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that must be satisfied by the RESPONDENT before re-issuance of an unencumbered license.

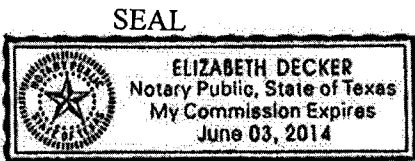BALANCE OF PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order and have consulted with 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 _11_ day of _June_ , 20_13_

Verna Lou Grace Cooper
VERNA LOU GRACE COOPER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _11th_ day of _June_ , 20_13_.

SEAL

Elizabeth Decker

Notary Public in and for the State of _Texas_

Approved as to form and substance. _nc_

Michael E. Grimes
MICHAEL GRIMES, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this _11th_ day of _June_ , 20_13_.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 11th day of June , 2013, by VERNA LOU GRACE COOPER, Registered Nurse License Number 243153, and said Order is final.

Effective this 18th day of July , 20 13.

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