BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 196703

issued to TERRI LOUISE ALBA § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of TERRI LOUISE ALBA, Vocational Nurse License Number 196702, 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) 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 June 9, 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 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 Cisco Junior College, Abilene, Texas, on December 11, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on January 4, 2005.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

2005 - 2006

Staff Nurse

Abilene State School Abilene, Texas Executive Director of the Board

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2007 - 2011	Assisted Living Director	Royal Estates of Abilene Abilene, Texas
2011 - 2011	PRN Home Health Nurse	Caprock Home Health Abilene, Texas
2011 - 2012	Staff Nurse	Abilene State School Abilene, Texas
2012 - present	unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Assisted Living Director with Royal Estates of Abilene, Abilene, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately four (4) years.
- 7. On or about April 9, 2011 through April 19, 2011, while employed as Assisted Living Director with Royal Estates of Abilene, Abilene, Texas, Respondent failed to initiate an investigation after she was informed that controlled substances belonging to Residents BM, RS, and RW, were missing. In addition, Respondent failed to notify the appropriate state agencies, as required. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and the patients' of the cost of the medications and placed the facility in violation of the rules and regulations.
- 8. On or about March 31, 2011 through April 9, 2011, while employed as Assisted Living Director with Royal Estates of Abilene, Abilene, Texas, for ten days, Respondent forged the initials of two (2) other nurses on a narcotic sheet for Xanax for Resident LP. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to deceive subsequent care givers who relied on the information while providing care to the patient.
- 9. On or about March 24, 2011 through April 4, 2011, while employed as Assisted Living Director with Royal Estates of Abilene, Abilene, Texas, Respondent failed to ensure that a camera device that was placed in her office in order to monitor the security of narcotics was working at all times. Subsequently, multiple narcotic discrepancies were found and the facility was unable to identify the individual responsible for diverting the medications. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and the patients the cost of the medications.
- 10. On or about November 2010 through April 9, 2011, while employed as Assisted Living Director with Royal Estates of Abilene, Abilene, Texas, Respondent failed to supervise and direct staff to be accountable for counting narcotics at the change of every shift. Subsequently, multiple narcotic discrepancies were found. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients the cost of the medications.

11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Ten (10), Respondent states she did investigate the controlled substances that were missing after she was notified on April 8th. She notified the Executive Director and told her she would go through the narcotic counts in the morning. The following morning, she was informed several narcotic counts were incorrect, and she recounted all three with the aide and told the Executive Director that she would check the camera only to find it wasn't recording. With regard to the forging nurses' initials in the narcotic sheet, Respondent states she copied the original document with the medication aide's initials on the document for the new narcotic sheet with the correct counts on them, but states she didn't forge the initials. With regard to the camera working, Respondent states there was a massive storm in March of 2011 and there was a power surge, the few times she was in her office, the camera was on, showing the image above the cabinets where the medications were stored and she had no indication that the device was not working and no reason at this time to review the data. Respondent states she did supervise direct staff to be accountable for counting narcotics at the change of every shift, that staff were in-serviced, that there were two previous incidences of missing narcotics and during this time, all of the aides that were directly involved were in-serviced. Respondent states it was policy at Royal Estates that the Director contact the State Agencies when there was a discrepancy.

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 §\$217.11(1)(A),(1)(D),(1)(G),(1)(M),(1)(P),(1)(U),(2)(A),&(2)(B) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B), (1)(C),(1)(D),(1)(F),(2),(4),(6)(A),(6)(H),(10)(B)&(11)(B).
- 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 196703, heretofore issued to TERRI LOUISE ALBA, 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 WARNING WITH

STIPULATIONS 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 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, 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 <u>not</u> 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 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 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. Boardapproved 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 a course in "Regulatory Requirements for Drug Therapy in The Nursing Facility," a 6.25 contact hour workshop presented in various locations by the Texas Department of Aging and

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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 Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

- (4) 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.
- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Delegating Effectively," a 4.2 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 Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html.

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). 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, 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(S) 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 REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations conditions on RESPONDENT'S license(s). 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 probation conditions on RESPONDENT'S license(s). 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.

- (8) 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.
- (9) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse, if licensed as a Registered Nurse, or by a Licensed Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse, if licensed as 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 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 one (1) year(s) 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(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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. 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 day of La [4, 20]3.

TERRI LOUISE ALBA, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2

day of July 201

SEAL

PAT DICKERSON
Notery Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
December 29, 2014

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 9th day of July, 2013, by TERRI LOUISE ALBA, Vocational Nurse License Number 196703, and said Order is final.

Effective this 6th day of August, 2013.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board