BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

§ AGREED §

Registered Nurse License Number 739138

issued to STEPHANIE LYNN LEWIS

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of STEPHANIE LYNN LEWIS, Registered Nurse License Number 739138, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(10)&(13) and 301.453, 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 December 18, 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 an Associate Degree in Nursing from Tarrant County Junior College, Fort Worth, Texas, on December 14, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 6, 2007.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

3/2007 - 7/2008

Telemetry Staff Nurse

Methodist Charlton Medical Center

Texas Health Arlington Memorial

Dallas, Texas

1/2008 - 4/2011

Telemetry Staff nurse

Hospital

Cardiac Educator
Operating Room RN

Arlington, Texas

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ecutive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

4/2011 - 7/2011

Staff Nurse

USMD Hospital at Arlington

Arlington, Texas

8/2011-Present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about April 27, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to document in the medical record of Patient Medical Record Number 00003769197 the administration or wastage of Vicodin after withdrawing the narcotic from the medication dispensing system(Pyxis) for the patient. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to provide further care.
- 8. On or about May 11, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to document in the medical record of Patient Medical Record Number V00003707734 the administration or wastage of Vicodin after withdrawing the narcotic from the Pyxis for the patient. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to provide further care.
- 9. On or about July 13, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to administer intravenous (IV) Ancef, an antibiotic, to Patient Number M000187389, as ordered. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to risk of harm from ineffective treatment which could result in a delay in the patient's recovery.
- 10. On or about July 13, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent administered IV Zinacef to Patient Number M000187389, instead of IV Ancef, as ordered. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to risk of harm from ineffective treatment which could result in a delay in the patient's recovery.
- 11. On or about July 13, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to document the administration of IV Zinacef in the medical record of the aforementioned Patient Number M000187389. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to provide further care.
- 12. On or about July 13, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent failed to transcribe a physician order for IV

Zinacef, an antibiotic, in the Medication Administration Record of Patient Number M000186989. The IV Zinacef was administered to the patient the following morning, nine hours (9) hours after it was due. Respondent's conduct placed the patient at risk of ineffective treatment which could result in a delay in the patient's recovery.

- On or about July 14, 2011, while employed as a Staff Nurse with USMD Hospital at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent left Patient Number M000069813 alone in a chair. The patient had a low hemoglobin and was dizzy. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm from fall and/or fainting.
- 14. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Thirteen (13), Respondent admits that she failed to properly document the dose of Vicodin for Patient Medical Record Number 00003769197. Respondent states that the time frame of administering medication to Patient Medical Record Number V00003707734 is shown incorrectly. Respondent indicates that she does not recall the events related to Patient Number M000187389 or Patient Number M000186989. Respondent states that at no time during her shift was Patient Number M000069813 left unattended. Respondent states that the staff was in and out of the patient's room and the patient's mother was present at all times.

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)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D),(1)(M)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 739138, heretofore issued to STEPHANIE LYNN LEWIS, 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 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, 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 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 medication administration. 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. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. 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: 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 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. Boardapproved 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.

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) YEAR(S) 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 REGISTERED NURSE (RN) OR A VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) LICENSE, AS APPROPRIATE, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations 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 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.
- (6) 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.

- (7) For the first year of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, 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.
- (8) For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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.

(9) 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 two (2) 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.

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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 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 24th day of February, 2014

STEPHANIF LYNNING STEPHANI

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SEAL

AMGEL MARIE DELORY My Commission Expires April 23, 2016

Notary Public in and for the State of

Approved as to form and substance

Shezad Malik. Attorney for Respondent

Signed this Sday of Feb 2014

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 24th day of February, 2014, by STEPHANIE LYNN LEWIS, Registered Nurse License Number 739138, and said Order is final.

Effective this 18th day of March, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board