

In the Matter of

**AGREED** 

Registered Nurse License Number 518049

§

issued to LINNIE C. RUSSELL

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LINNIE C. RUSSELL, Registered Nurse License Number 518049, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these Findings of Fact was provided to 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 Galveston College, Galveston, Texas, on May 1, 1984. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 24, 1984.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

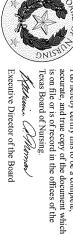
05/84 - 06/13

Staff Nurse

Brazosport Regional Health System Lake Jackson, Texas

518049:167

C10vs



Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

2008 - Present

Staff Nurse

Angleton Danbury Medical Center Angleton, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Brazosport Regional Health System, Lake Jackson, Texas, and had been in this position for

twenty-eight (28) years and eight (8) months.

- On or about February 24, 2013, through May 7, 2013, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Brazosport Regional Health System, Lake Jackson, Texas, and assigned to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), Respondent withdrew Morphine Sulfate, Dilaudid and Demerol, from the Medication Dispensing System (Pyxis) for patient Account Numbers A000600134592, A00600137514, A00600140728, A00600142634, A00600150990, A00600155155 and A00600160076, and falsely administration of the medications in the patients' Post Anesthesia Care Unit Nurse's Notes. Subsequently, Respondent disclosed to staff that she falsely documented the medications were administered. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record, and was likely to injure the residents in that subsequent care givers did not have accurate information on which to base their decisions for further care. Furthermore, Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
- 8. On or about March 7, 2013, through March 28, 2013, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Brazosport Regional Health System, Lake Jackson, Texas, and assigned to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), Respondent withdrew Dilaudid and Morphine Sulfate from the Medication Dispensing System (Pyxis) for patient Account Numbers A00600137514 and A00600142634, but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct left medications unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 9. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Brazosport Regional Health System, Lake Jackson, Texas, and assigned to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), Respondent failed to take precautions to prevent the misappropriation of an unlabeled syringe containing Morphine that belonged to patient Account Number A00600160076, in that Respondent left the syringe unattended on a bedside table. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications, and is a violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 10. On or about May 9, 2013, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Brazosport Regional Health System, Lake Jackson, Texas, and assigned to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU), Respondent misappropriated medications, including, but not limited to, Ondansetron,

belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Multiple pills and vials of medication, along with needles and IV start materials, were found in her personal bag which was inside her locker. Subsequently, Respondent admitted to staff that she pulled the Ondansetron for patients but kept the medication when patients did not need them. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications, and is a violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

- 11. Formal Charges were filed on February 5, 2014.
- 12. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on February 5, 2014.
- 13. Respondent, by her signature to this Order, expresses her desire to voluntarily surrender her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 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)(D) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(B),(10)(C), (10)(E)&(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 Registered Nurse License Number 518049, heretofore issued to LINNIE C. RUSSELL, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
- 7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

## ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 518049, heretofore issued to LINNIE C. RUSSELL, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional, use the title "registered" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
- 3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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.

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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 becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

|   | Signed this 6th day of May, 2014.           |
|---|---|
|   | Sinne Cussell                               |
|   | LINNIE C. RUSSELL, Respondent               |
| •   | 146   |
| Sworn to and subscribed before  | me this day of / (44, , 20/4)               |
| SEAL  | Lauro Woodson                               |
|   | Notary Public in and for the State of 12/05 |
| NIII)   | Notary Fublic in and for the State of       |
| LAURA WOODSON Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires February 12, 2017 | Approved as to form and substance.          |
|   | CLARK WOODSON III, Attorney for Respondent  |
|   | Signed this 6 day of 101/, 2014.            |

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 518049, previously issued to LINNIE C. RUSSELL.

Effective this  $9^{th}$  day of May, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board