BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 791414

issued to JOSHUA LEE FIELDS

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, Registered Nurse License Number 791414,, 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)(1)&(10) 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 10, 2014.

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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi, on May 12, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 9, 2010.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

09/2010 - 05/2013

RN

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, Texas

Executive Director of the Board

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

05/2013 - 9/2013

Unknown

10/2013

RN

Nurse Finders Fort Worth, Texas

11/2013 - Present

Unknown

- 6. On or about February 5, 2014, Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas was issued a CONFIDENTIAL AGREED ORDER FOR PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated February 5, 2014, is attached and incorporated by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about May 16, 2014, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to his by the Texas Board of Nursing on February 5, 2014. Non-compliance is the result of his failure to comply with all requirements of the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) participation agreement. Stipulation number three (3) of the Agreed Order dated February 5, 2014, states:

"RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current."

On or about May 16, 2014, Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for failing to return items necessary to initiate participation within the required time frame.

- 8. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 9. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
- 10. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

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(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 791414, heretofore issued to JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 791414, , previously issued to JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, to practice nursing in Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is ENFORCED until Respondent complies with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2):

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.
- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of compliance with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2), the SUSPENSION will be stayed, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the TPAPN:

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing

in the State of Texas current.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.

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 multistate licensure 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, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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. I acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Stipulation Numbers One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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 2014.
	Joshus & Auld
	JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, Respondent
Sworn to and subscribed	before me this day of 20
SEAL	
	Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on 12th day of June, 20<u>14</u>, by JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, Registered Nurse License Number 791414, and said Order is final.

Effective this 12th day of June, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

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BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 791414 issued to JOSHUA LEE FIELDS § CONFIDENTIAL§ AGREED ORDER

§ AGR § FOR

PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, Registered Nurse License Number 791414, 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)(b)(9),(10),(12)&(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 offered under the authority of Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code, and approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on January 16, 2014.

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 professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi, on May 12, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 9, 2010.

5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

09/2010 - 05/2013

RN

Texas Health Presbyterian

Hospital

Dallas, Texas

05/2013 - 10/2013

Unknown

10/2013 - 10/2013

RN

Nurse Finders

Fort Worth, Texas

11/2013 - Present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the initial incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7), through Eleven (11), Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, and had been in this position for approximately two (2) years and eight (8) months.
- 7. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone 2mg/1mL from the Medication Dispensing System for patient Medical Record Number 1527955 (L.L.), but failed to document, or completely and accurately document, the administration of the Hydromorphone 1mg, including signs, symptoms, and responses to the medication in the patients' Medication Administration Records and/or nurse's notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patient, which could result in an overdose. Respondent's conduct also placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
- 8. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone 2mg/1mL from the Medication Dispensing System for patient Medical Record Number 1527955 (L.L.), but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of any of the unused portions of the medications. 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).
- 9. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydromorphone from the facility and patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
- 10. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent left his nursing assignment without

notifying his appropriate supervisor. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure patients in that leaving the nursing assignment could have resulted in the patient not getting the care that they needed.

- 11. On or about May 7, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Hydromorphone in that he produced a urine specimen for a for-cause drug screen that resulted positive for Hydromorphone. Unlawful possession of Hydromorphone is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act). The use of Hydromorphone by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 12. On or about October 31, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Nurse Finders, Fort Worth, Texas, and on assignment at the Texas General Hospital, Grand Prairie, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that he exhibited signs of impairment, including being shaky and anxious. Respondent's condition could have affected his ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patients' conditions, and could have affected his ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
- 13. On or about October 31, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Nurse Finders, Fort Worth, Texas, and on assignment at the Texas General Hospital, Grand Prairie, Texas, Respondent misappropriated Hydrocodone, Demerol, Aspirin, needles, alcohol prep pads, and a 10mL syringe from the facility and patients thereof. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications and supplies.
- 14. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Thirteen (13), Respondent denies all allegations brought against him and requested to be allowed to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN).
- 15. The Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 16. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
- 17. Formal Charges were filed on January 10, 2014.
- 18. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on January 13, 2014.
- 19. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.

20. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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 $\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(I)\&(1)(T)$ and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE $\S217.12(1)(A)\&(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(6)(A),(6)(G),(10)(A),(10)(B),(10)(C),(10)(D),(11)(B)\&(12).$
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 791414, heretofore issued to JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.
 - (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality

and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.

- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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 multistate licensure 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, while RESPONDENT remains in compliance with the terms of this Order, this Order shall remain confidential in accordance with the authority outlined in Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code. However, should Respondent fail to successfully complete the terms of this Order or should Respondent commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Order shall be treated as prior disciplinary action and will become public information.

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IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this

Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and 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 waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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 5th day of February, 20 14.

Joshua J. Aic Uh.

JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of Feb 20 14.

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program that was signed on the 5th day of February, 2014, by JOSHUA LEE FIELDS, Registered Nurse License Number 791414, and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 5th day of February, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board