BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

§

In the Matter of License Number 554064

AGREED

issued to CAROLYN JEANENE CLARKE

§ ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CAROLYN JEANENE CLARKE, License Number 554064, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 11, 2002, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, 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.
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal conference, 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 Grayson County College, Denison, Texas, in May 1989. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 25, 1989.

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5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

5/1989 - 11/1990	GN/Staff RN - Post-Partum Newborn Nursery, L&D	TMC Medical Center Denison, Texas
1990	Charge RN Newborn Nursery	Wilson N. Jones Hospital Sherman, Texas
1990	Staff RN - PRN Emergency Room	Medical Plaza Hospital Sherman, Texas
11/1990 - 8/1992	Charge RN Psych & CD Units	Arbor Creek Hospital Sherman, Texas
8/1992 - 11/1994	Pediatric Nurse Health Education	Project Kind Early Childhood Denison, Texas
11/1994 - 12/1995	Charge RN Geri-Psych Unit	Columbia Medical Center Sherman, Texas
12/1995 - 5/1998	Charge RN Rehab Unit	Wilson N. Jones Hospital Sherman, Texas
5/1998 - 8/1999	RN - Director Geri-Psych Unit	Post Oak Nursing Center Sherman, Texas
8/1999 - 2/2000	Charge RN	Denison Manor Nursing Home Denison, Texas
8/1999 - 8/2000	Charge RN Psych & CD Units	TMC Behavioral Health Ctr. Sherman, Texas
8/2000 - 5/2001	Staff RN Post-Partum	North Central Medical Center McKinney, Texas
4/2002 - Present	Staff RN Women's Services	Medical Center of Plano Plano, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff RN in the Women's Services Department with the Medical Center of Plano, Plano, Texas, and had been in this position for two (2) months.
- 7. While employed at the Medical Center of Plano, Plano, Texas, on or about May 28, 2002, Respondent failed to report to the charge nurse or the physician the hypotensive status of post-operative Patient Medical Record Number 080266. The physician's post-operative orders directed the Respondent to notify the physician if the patient's blood pressure dropped below 90/60. Subsequent to fluid boluses and transfusions, Patient Medical Record Number 080266 developed renal failure and pulmonary edema, necessitating transfer to the critical care unit for two (2) days. Respondent's behavior exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of hemorrhage, shock, infection, renal failure and/or death.
- 8. While employed at the Medical Center of Plano, Plano, Texas, on or about June 27, 2002, Respondent failed to report a low blood pressure on post-operative Patient Medical Record Number 359853. The physician's orders directed Respondent to notify the physician if the patient's blood pressure dropped below 90/60. Respondent's behavior exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of hemorrhage, shock, infection, renal failure and/or death.

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 of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(2)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 554064, heretofore issued to CAROLYN JEANENE CLARKE, including revocation of Respondent's professional license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code, §§301.001 et seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 et seq. and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's multistate licensure privilege, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is 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 State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-size license issued to CAROLYN JEANENE CLARKE, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days from date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.
- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered Nurses. It shall be a

minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. 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.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in physical assessment. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered Nurses. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. RESPONDENT SHALL perform physical assessments on live patients in a clinical setting for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours which shall be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of physical assessment only. To be approved, the course shall cover all systems of the body. Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. 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.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in human physiology. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. This course shall be taken through an accredited academic institution and shall be a minimum of three (3) semester hours in length. The course shall include a laboratory component. If the course does not include a laboratory component, RESPONDENT SHALL concurrently complete the accompanying laboratory course offered by the institution. To be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of the function of the entire human body; an emphasis on the characteristics of physiological processes; and the influence of environmental and other factors on these processes. RESPONDENT SHALL receive a grade of C or better to meet the requirements of this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL submit a copy of the final grade for the course 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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING, UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) LICENSE, OR WHERE DIRECT PATIENT CARE IS NOT PROVIDED, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

- of this Order of the Board and the stipulations conditions on RESPONDENT's license. 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 professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations conditions on RESPONDENT's license. 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 professional 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 professional nurse.

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN 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 RN 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.

(8) 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 professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising Registered Nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for ONE (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional 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 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 17 day of February, 2003.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17 day of 7 Mayary, 2003.

Start

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17 day of 4 Mayary, 2003.

Notary Public in and for the State of 12/20/2006

ELOISE LEMBKE Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires DECEMBER 20, 2006

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 17th day of February, 2003, by CAROLYN JEANENE CLARKE, License Number 554064, and said Order is final.

Effective this __25th__ day of __April_, 2003.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board