BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of

AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 556754 issued to KATHLEEN ANN BUNKER

§ §

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Boar considered the matter of KATHLEEN ANN BUNKER, Registered Nurse Lice is Number 55675 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), 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 June 11, 2014.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- Respondent received an Associates Degree in Nursing from Saddleback College, Mission 4. Viejo, California, on May 1, 1986. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 17, 1989.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1/1982 - 4/1986

Licensed Vocational Nurse

Western Medical Center

Santa Ana, California

5/1986 - 11/1989

Registered Nurse

Western Medical Center

Santa And, California

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1/1990 - 9/1990

Registered Nurse

University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) Galveston, Texas

10/1990 - 6/1991

Unknown

7/1991 - 3/1992

Registered Nurse

St. Joseph's Hospital Houston, Texas

3/1992 - Unknown

Registered Nurse

Memorial Hermann Southeast

Hospital

Houston, Texas

5/1997 - 9/2013

Registered Nurse

St. Luke's Medical Center

Houston, Texas

10/2013 - Present

Unknown

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for sixteen (16) years and four (4) months.

7. On or about September 19, 2013, while employed as a Registered Nurse with St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston, Texas, and assigned to Patient Medical Record Number 02832644, Respondent failed to obtain the consent for a surgical procedure, failed to verify the patient's identity, failed to verify the procedure to be done, including the procedure site, and failed to ensure that all consent forms had been received. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete 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, including performing the patient's surgical procedure.

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)(D) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §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 556754 heretofore issued to KATHLEEN ANN BUNKER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REMEDIAL EDUCATION, 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 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, 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/compliance.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing documentation. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Foard 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. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

(3) 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/compliance.

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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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. Thave 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 when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, 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 94 day of August, 2014.

KATHLEEN ANN BUNKER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 04 day of August . 20 14



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Approved as to form/and substance.

OSCAR SAN MIGUEL. Attorney for Respondent

Signed this Old day of Regnt 2014.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 4th day of August, 2014, by KATHLEEN ANN BUNKER, Registered Nurse License Number 556754, and said Order is final.

Effective this 5th day of August, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board