### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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Executive Director of the Board

In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 749069 §

issued to RONALD MARVIN LALONDE § ORDER

An investigation by the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the produced evidence indicating that RONALD MARVIN LALONDE, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, Registered Nurse License Number 749069, may be subject to discipline pursuant to Sections 301.452(b)(10)&(13) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on May 20, 2014, at the office of the Texas Board of Nursing, in accordance with Section 301.464 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was represented by Taralynn R. Mackay, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Jolene Zych, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC - Advanced Nurse Practice Consultant, Executive Director's Designee; John Vanderford, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; Skylar Caddell, RN-BC, Nurse Investigator Specialist; Christine Stelly, MSN, RN, Nurse Practice Consultant; Kimberley Chavez, Investigator; and Molly Omelchuck, RN, Investigator.

#### **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 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 The University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada on April 30, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on December 17, 2007.

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5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/2007 - 2/2012

RN

St. David's Medical Center

Austin, Texas

10/2012 - Present

RN

Med-Staff aka Accountable

Healthcare Staffing Boca Raton, Florida

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a RN with Med-Staff, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and had been in this position for two (2) months.
- 7. On or about December 11, 2012, while employed as a RN utilizing his privilege to practice from his Texas registered nurse license and employed with Med-Staff Staffing Agency, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and on assignment at Mountain View Regional Medical Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico, Respondent failed to document a complete initial assessment on Patient Medical Record Number 027560. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on his documentation to provide further care.
- 8. On or about December 11, 2012, while employed as a RN utilizing his privilege to practice from his Texas registered nurse license and employed with Med-Staff Staffing Agency, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and on assignment at Mountain View Regional Medical Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico, Respondent failed to ensure a required informed signed consent was obtained from Patient Medical Record Number 027560 prior to the administration of t-PA (Alteplase). Respondent's conduct deprived the patient of information necessary to make an informed decision about receiving a high risk treatment, thereby placing her at risk of harm.
- 9. On or about December 11, 2012, while employed as an RN utilizing his privilege to practice from his Texas registered nurse license and employed with Med-Staff Staffing Agency, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and on assignment at Mountain View Regional Medical Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico, Respondent administered the high alert medication t-PA (Alteplase) without a physician's order to Patient Medical Record Number 027560, who was admitted to the hospital for evaluation of stroke versus Parkinson's exacerbation. Altepase is a medication which facilitates breakdown of blood clots. The patient died less than twenty four (24) hours later of pervasive brain hemorrhage. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient related to the treatment not being administered with the benefit of a physician's expertise and may have contributed to the patient's subsequent demise.
- 10. On or about December 11, 2012, while employed as an RN utilizing his privilege to practice from his Texas registered nurse license and employed with Med-Staff Staffing Agency, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and on assignment at Mountain View Regional Medical Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico, Respondent failed to assess and document vital signs every fifteen (15) minutes as required by policy after administering the high risk medication t-PA (Alteplase)

to Patient Medical Record Number 027560. Respondent's conduct placed the patient at risk of harm in that she did not receive monitoring of her vital signs at regular intervals which would alert care givers of a change in condition.

11. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Ten (10), Respondent admits to administering the t-PA (Alteplase) in error, but states that there were multiple system errors involved with this incident which compounded the errors made by himself:

The TPA was sent to the floor by either someone in Pharmacy or the Emergency Department;

The TPA bag was missing the brightly colored "High Alert" label;

The charge RN took the medication to Respondent, should have known that medication was not to be administered on that unit, and, knowing Respondent to be a travel nurse, should have informed Respondent of policy issues regarding this medication; and,

The pharmacy included TPA on the printed MAR which was sent to the Telemetry unit in error.

Respondent states he triple checks everything now. He thoroughly reads the chart, including the original orders to be sure the medications being administered are the right patient, med, dose and route and that the medication has not been discontinued.

- 12. Formal Charges were filed on October 24, 2013.
- 13. Charges were mailed to Respondent on October 25, 2013.

### **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)(P)&(3)(A) 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 749069, heretofore issued to RONALD MARVIN LALONDE, 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 <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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.</a>

(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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</a>.

(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. Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</a>.

(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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance">http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</a>.

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 PROBATION CONDITIONS FOR TWO (2) YEAR(S) OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE PROBATIONARY 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). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be employed by a nurse registry, temporary nurse employment agency, hospice, or home health agency or be self-employed or contract for services, with the sole exception that RESPONDENT may work for Accountable Healthcare Staffing, Boca Raton, Florida, provided that all contract assignments are within the State of Texas, and are a minimum of thirteen (13) weeks in duration. Multiple employers are prohibited.

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(8) For the remainder of the stipulation 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 or be self-employed or contract for services, with the sole exception that RESPONDENT may work for Accountable Healthcare Staffing, Boca Raton, Florida, provided that all contract assignments are within the State of Texas, and are a minimum of thirteen (13) weeks in duration. 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) years 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.

# 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 8 day of July, 20 14

RONALD MARVIN LALONDE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF FLORIDA
Cliff J. Chin
Commission # EF003637
Expires: JULY 08, 2014
BONDED THRU ATLANTIC HONDING CO. INC.

Notary Public in and for the State of

Approved as to form and substance.

Taralynn R. Mackay, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 10th day of July, 2014

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>8th</u> day of <u>July</u>, 20 14, by RONALD MARVIN LALONDE, Registered Nurse License Number 749069, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of August, 2014.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board