

IN THE MATTER OF
PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE
LICENSE NUMBER 61128
ISSUED TO
DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL

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BEFORE THE TEXAS
BOARD OF NURSING
ELIGIBILITY AND
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE



I do hereby certify this to be a complete,
accurate, and true copy of the document which
is on file or is of record in the offices of the
Texas Board of Nursing.
Patricia Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL
P.O. BOX 1481
CONROE, TX 77305

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on **March 10, 2015**, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 61128, previously issued to DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same is/are hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 10th day of March, 2015.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:



KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment: Formal Charge filed October 16, 2014.

Re: Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 61128
Issued to DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL
DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 11 day of March, 2015, a true and correct copy of the foregoing DEFAULT ORDER was served and addressed to the following person(s), as follows:

Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL
P.O. BOX 1481
CONROE, TX 77305

BY:



KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of § **BEFORE THE TEXAS**
Permanent Vocational Nurse §
License Number 61128 §
Issued to DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL § **BOARD OF NURSING**
Respondent §

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, is a Vocational Nurse holding License Number 61128, which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about February 15, 2013, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on February 14, 2012, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number One (1) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one year (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics....

A copy of the February 14, 2012, Agreed Order, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this pleading.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupation Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (11)(B).

CHARGE II.

On or about February 15, 2013, Respondent failed to comply with the Agreed Order issued to her on February 14, 2012, by the Texas Board of Nursing. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to comply with Stipulation Number Two (2) of the Agreed Order which states, in pertinent part:

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one year (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete the course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills"....

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupation Code, and is a violation of 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html.

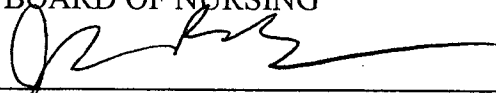
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CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that Respondent's past disciplinary history, as set out below and described in the Order(s) which is/are attached and incorporated by reference as part of these charges, will be offered in support of the disposition recommended by staff: Agreed Order dated February 14, 2012.

Filed this 16 day of October, 2014.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



James W. Johnston, General Counsel
Board Certified - Administrative Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization
State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24036103

Natalie E. Adelaja, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24064715

John R. Griffith, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24079751

Robert Kyle Hensley, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 50511847

John F. Legris, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 00785533

John Vanderford, Assistant General Counsel
State Bar No. 24086670

333 Guadalupe, Tower III, Suite 460
Austin, Texas 78701
P: (512) 305-6811
F: (512) 305-8101 or (512)305-7401

Attachments: Order of the Board dated February 14, 2012

D/2014.08.18

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Vocational Nurse § AGREED
License Number 61128 §
issued to DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, Vocational Nurse License Number 61128, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on December 7, 2011, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, 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(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 vocational nursing in the State of Texas.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Nursing from Lubbock School of Vocational Nursing, Lubbock Texas on June 3, 1974. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on August 24, 1974.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1985 - 1987	Owner	Amherst Manor Amherst, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1988 - 1994	Vocational Nurse	Autumn Hills Nursing Home Houston, Texas
1991 - 2002	Vocational Nurse	Medical Staffing Network Houston, Texas
4/2002 - 10/2009	Vocational Nurse	Maxim Healthcare Services Houston, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a vocational nurse with Maxim Healthcare Services, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for seven (7) years and six (6) months.
7. On or about May 6, 2009, while employed with Maxim Healthcare Services - Spring #140, Houston, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to safely practice nursing and failed to adequately care for pediatric Patient KT, in that she was found sleeping on the floor of the child's room while on duty. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger. Further, Respondent's conduct constituted neglect of the patient.
8. On or about October 20, 2009 through October 21, 2009, while employed with Maxim Healthcare Services - Spring #140, Houston, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to safely practice nursing and failed to adequately care for pediatric Patient NS, in that she was found sleeping in the child's room while on duty. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger. Further, Respondent's conduct constituted neglect of the patient.
9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states Patient KT was wheelchair-bound most of the time and had to be transferred to bed with the siderails up for sleeping and transferred to the floor for therapy and exercises. Respondent adds that the patient was unable to rest safely in bed when awake so when he became restless or nervous, she would talk to the patient, give prn medications, play movies, and sit on the floor and massage the patient's feet and legs to relax him. Respondent states that two (2) or three (3) times, she watched some of his movies while the patient sat next to her in his wheelchair and at various times the patient's Mom came in. Respondent denies sleeping when they stated she was and adds that the family requested her back and informed her they knew they made a mistake reporting her and would tell Maxim.

10. Respondent provided no response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8).
11. Formal Charges were filed on October 24, 2011 and mailed on October 25, 2011.

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 violations of Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 217.11(1)(B)&(T) and 217.12(1)(E) &(5).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 61128, heretofore issued to DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, 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 a WARNING 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 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. 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.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>

(2) 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. *Information regarding Board-approved courses may be found at the following Board website address: <http://www.bon.state.tx.us/disciplinaryaction/stipscourses.html>.*

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 STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT. THE LENGTH OF THE STIPULATION PERIOD WILL BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TWELVE (12) 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:

(3) 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.

(4) 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.

(5) 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. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

(6) 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 one (1) year 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 shall be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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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 violations 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.

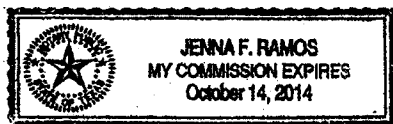
Signed this 14 day of JANUARY, 2012.

Doris Dickson Mitchell
DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of JANUARY, 2012.

SEAL

[Signature]
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



I HAVE NOT BEEN HOME PAST 2 1/2 WEEKS, RECEIVED THIS IN MAIL YESTERDAY - JAN 13, 2012 - AM GETTING IT NOTARIZED AND MAILED BACK TODAY. DM

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 14th day of January, 20 12, by DORRIS DICKSON MITCHELL, Vocational Nurse License Number 61128, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of February, 20 12.



Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN
Executive Director on behalf
of said Board