BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of§AGREEDVocational Nurse License Number 204562§issued to STEPHANIE LYNN LIVINGSTON§ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of STEPHANIE LYNN LIVINGSTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 204562, 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)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived

notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN,

FAAN, Executive Director, on March 25, 2015.

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's license to practice as a vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Northeast Texas Community College, Mount Pleasant, Texas on August 12, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 22, 2006.
- 5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history is unknown.

- 6. On or about April 20, 2006, Respondent was issued an Order of Conditional Eligibility by the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated April 20, 2006 is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about September 4, 2013, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty and was convicted of THEFT PROPERTY =>\$500<\$1,500, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on March 31, 2010, in the County Court of Red River County, Texas, under Cause No. 18142. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Red River County Jail for a period of one (1) year; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of one (1) year and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of one thousand four hundred forty-seven dollars and fifty-seven cents (\$1,447.57) and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.</p>
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent admits to the allegation stating she wrote the checks with the intention of being covered by overdraft protection, but due to other extenuating circumstances, she lost her job and could not deposit money into her account to cover the checks. She then moved out of the county and failed to pay them off before a warrant was issued. She used this situation as a learning experience and no longer uses checks with her checking accounts.

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(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(3)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 204562, heretofore issued to STEPHANIE LYNN LIVINGSTON.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Evidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive

the sanction of WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- B. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state without first obtaining the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the nurse licensure compact party state where Respondent wishes to work.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT agrees to 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.

III. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) <u>within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically</u>

- <u>indicated</u>:
- **A.** <u>A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics</u> that 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. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.

B. The course <u>"Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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/these course(s), RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form or SHALL submit the continuing education certificate, as applicable, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office. RESPONDENT SHALL first obtain Board approval of any course prior to enrollment if the course is <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved provider. *Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.*

IV. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse,

providing direct patient care in a licensed healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment with the same employer for all three (3) months <u>will not</u> <u>count towards completion of this requirement</u>. 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 period <u>and will not count towards completion of this requirement</u>.

> A. Notifying Present and Future Employers: RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in nursing and present each with a complete copy of this Order, including all attachments, if any, prior to accepting an offer of employment.

- **B.** Notification of Employment Forms: RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in nursing to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment form" to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a nurse.
- C. Indirect Supervision: 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.
- **D.** Nursing Performance Evaluations: 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 and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

V. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

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. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this 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 possible revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this <u>Al</u> day of **STEPHA**

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21^{st} day of Apr. 1 Oly Hach

SEAL

SALLY SHANKS My Commission Expires May 13, 2017

Notary Public in and for the State of lexas

/0/204562:259

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>21st</u> day of <u>April</u>, 20<u>15</u>, by STEPHANIE LYNN LIVINGSTON, Vocational Nurse License Number 204562, and said Order is final.

Effective this <u>12th</u> day of <u>May</u>, 20<u>15</u>.

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