## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 646207

Registered Nurse License Number 646207 issued to DOLORES SANCHEZ

AGREED

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ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of DOLORES SANCHEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 646207, 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 notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on March 23, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 28, 1997.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/1997-6/2007

Unknown

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accurate, and true copy of the document was is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.

\*\*ASS\*\* Executive Director of the Board\*\*

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

7/2007-Present

Registered Nurse Charge Nurse

Hendrick Medical Center

Abilene, Texas

6. On or about August 8, 2006, Respondent was issued the sanction of WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS through an Agreed Order by the Board. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated August 8, 2006, is attached and incorporated by reference as part of this Order.

- 7. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse (RN) Charge Nurse with Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene, Texas, and had been in that position for seven (7) years and four (4) months.
- 8. On or about November 4, 2014, while employed as a RN Charge Nurse with Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene, Texas, Respondent failed to reassign Patient Number 0777373 from the care of a licensed vocational nurse (LVN) to an RN when the patient had a change in condition, which was outside of the LVN's scope of practice. The patient's condition continued to decline and required transfer to a higher level of care. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to a risk of harm from assessments and interventions performed without the judgement of a registered nurse.
- 9. On or about November 4, 2014, while employed as a RN Charge Nurse with Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene, Texas, Respondent failed to document assessments of the aforementioned Patient Number 0777373 in the patient's medical record. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information on which to base their care decisions.
- 10. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) and Nine (9), Respondent states that she first assessed the patient when the primary nurse, a licensed vocational nurse, reported that the patient was confused. Respondent states that at that time she called the physician to report the change in condition and received orders to administer lactulose, administer a fluid bolus, and to check ammonia level. Respondent states that she also received an order to transfer the patient to telemetry, but there was no bed available at the time. Respondent states that the primary nurse did take vital signs after administration of the fluid bolus, which showed improvement in blood pressure, and this was written on a piece of paper. At that time, Respondent states that the physician came by to see the patient and she informed him of the vital signs and unavailability of a telemetry bed.

# **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),(1)(M)&(1)(S) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(D)&(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 646207, heretofore issued to DOLORES SANCHEZ, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 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 **REPRIMAND 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

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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) within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise specifically indicated:

- A. A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics 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. A Board-approved course in nursing documentation that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: 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. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. 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/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 not being offered by a preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

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# 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 eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. Any quarterly period without continuous employment with the same employer for all three (3) months will not count towards completion of this requirement. 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 and will not count towards completion of this requirement.

- 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. Direct Supervision: For the first year [four (4) quarters] 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. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.

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- D. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the stipulation/probation 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. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be self-employed or contract for services. Multiple employers are prohibited.
- E. 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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] 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.

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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(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 27th day of april, 2015.

DOLORES SANCHEZ, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of

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**SEAL** 

Kristin A Greene Notary Public State of Texas My Commission Expires 08-27-2018 Notary Public in and for the State of \_\_\_

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 27th day of April, 2015, by DOLORES SANCHEZ, Registered Nurse License Number 646207, and said Order is final.

Effective this 16th day of June, 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 646207 issued to DOLORES SANCHEZ § AGREED § ORDER

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Evaminary for the State of Texas, herein:

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinal referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DOLORES SANCHEZ, Registered Nu License Number 646207, 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 June 27, 2006, 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 Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, on May 1, 1997. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 28, 1997.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history is unknown.

- 6. On or about July 15, 2004, Respondent was indicted of the offenses, "Aggravated Assault-Deadly Weapon," a Third Degree Felony and "Evading Arrest," a State Jail Felony, in the 350th District Court of Taylor County, Abilene, Texas. Subsequently, the charge of "Aggravated Assault-Deadly Weapon" was dropped as part of a plea agreement with the Taylor County District Attorney's office and the charge of "Evading Arrest" was reduced from a State Jail Felony to a Class A Misdemeanor pursuant Texas Penal Code 12.44(b).
- 7. On or about February 16, 2006, Respondent plead guilty to the offense "Evading Arrest," a Class A Misdemeanor in the 350th Judicial District Court, Taylor County, Cause Number 6870-D. Respondent's finding of guilt was deferred and she was placed on community supervision for a period of two (2) years, ordered to pay a fine in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00), and required to perform twenty-four (24) hours of community service.

## **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 a violation of Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 646207, heretofore issued to DOLORES SANCHEZ, including revocation of Respondent's license to practice professional 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 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 compact states.

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-sized license issued to DOLORES SANCHEZ, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days from the 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 Texas nursing jurisprudence. 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) 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. Board-approved courses may be found on the Board's website www,bne.state,tx.us (under BNE events).

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing 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. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. 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 on the Board's website, www.bne.state.tx.us (under BNE events).

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 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) LICENSE WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS

## STIPULATION PERIOD:

- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations 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 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.
- (5) 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.
- (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 professional 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) months for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.
- (7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE her probation officer to submit written reports on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board. The reports shall indicate the RESPONDENT's

compliance with the court ordered probation. The reports shall be furnished each and every three (3) month period until RESPONDENT is released from probation.

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.

Dolore Sandy

Dolores SANCHEZ, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_ day of

\_day of \_ Ju

, 20 06.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

BRENDA D. PRINGLE
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Exp 03-21-07

| WHEREFORE, PREMI                                       | ISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse                  |
|--|--|
| Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ra        | tify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed      |
| on the <u>11th</u> day of <u>July</u> , 20 <u>06</u> , | by DOLORES SANCHEZ, Registered Nurse                 |
| License Number 646207, and said Order is fin           | al.  |
| Effective t  | his <u>8th</u> day of <u>August</u> , 20 <u>06</u> . |

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