BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 200547 §

issued to BARBARA ANN JOHNSON § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of BARBARA ANN JOHNSON, Vocational Nurse License Number 200547, 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 January 8, 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 Augusta Technical Institute, Augusta, Georgia, on March 1, 1991. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 4, 2005.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2005-12/2005 Unknown

1/2006-10/2007 Licensed Vocational Nurse Temple Living Center

Temple, Texas

Executive Director of the Boan

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/2007-12/2009	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Querencia Healthcare Austin, Texas
1/2009-3/2012	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Edu-Care of Austin Austin, Texas
4/2012-9/2012	Licensed Vocational Nurse	The Summit at Westlake Hills Austin, Texas
10/2012-12/2012	Unknown	
1/2013-Unknown	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Harbor Hospice Austin, Texas
2/2013-Unknown	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health Austin, Texas
7/2013-10/2014	Licensed Vocational Nurse	Premieant, Inc Austin, Texas
4/2014-Present	Staff Nurse	Edu-Care of Austin Austin, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Premieant, Inc., Austin, Texas, and had been in that position for eight (8) months.
- 7. On or about March 9, 2014, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Premieant, Inc, Austin, Texas, and assigned to the Williams House, Respondent failed to adequately assess Patient J.D. and document interventions she provided when the patient had a significant change of condition. After Respondent was notified by the house staff that the patient had vomited, she assessed the patient's lung sounds but failed to inquire of staff or read the staff communication log to determine when the patient first began vomiting. Respondent instructed the staff to keep the patient's tube feeding turned off until she returned to the home in a couple hours. When Respondent returned to the patient's home she noticed the patient was having seizure like symptoms and Respondent notified her charge RN who instructed Respondent to send the patient out via 911. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to the risk of harm from delayed treatment, and deprived the patient of the benefit of medical interventions, which may have contributed to the patient's death.
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she was notified around 1:30 p.m. by the house staff that the patient had vomited and she instructed the staff to stop the patient's tube feeding and went to assess the patient. Respondent states the patient was

sitting up in his wheelchair, he was not coughing or wheezing and his breathing was unlabored. Respondent states she instructed staff to leave the tube feeding off until she returned at 4:00 p.m. to re-assess the patient. Respondent states when she returned and administered the patient's medication, it appeared the patient was having a seizure. Respondent states the patient's pulse oximeter was taken and was 87% and she was unable to get a blood pressure and pulse because of the spastic movement. Respondent states she called the on-call nurse and reported the patient's condition and received instructions to send the patient out to the Emergency Room.

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 $\S\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(M)\&(2)(A)$ and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 200547, heretofore issued to BARBARA ANN JOHNSON, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

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) 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 physical assessment with a didactic portion of not less than six (6) hours and a clinical component of not less than twenty-four (24) hours. Both the didactic and clinical components must be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. 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. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. <u>A Board-approved course in nursing documentation</u> 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

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alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.

D. 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.

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 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. 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.

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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 Eth day of June, 20 15

BARBARA ANN JOHNSON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>5</u>

day of Ur

2015

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

JULIE-HANG NGUYEN

Notary Public

STATE OF TEXAS

My Comm. Exp. 09-30-17

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 5th day of June, 2015, by BARBARA ANN JOHNSON, Vocational Nurse License Number 200547, and said Order is final.

Effective this 23rd day of July, 2015.

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Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board