### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 838164 § issued to MARC LEE CATES § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MARC LEE CATES, Registered Nurse License Number 838164, 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 May 16, 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 Collin County Community College, McKinney, Texas, on May 17. 2013. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 20, 2013.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

8/2013 - Present Staff RN Parkland Health and Hospital System Dallas, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Registered Nurse with Parkland Health and Hospital System, Dallas, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year.

is on file or is of record in the offices of Texas Board of Nursing.

\*\*Texas Board of Nursing.\*\*

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- 7. On or about August 3, 2014, while employed as a Staff Registered Nurse with Parkland Health and Hospital System, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to implement measures to prevent exposure to infectious pathogens and communicable conditions when he used the intravenous pump, tubing, and normal saline fluid from the previous patient, a patient diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), to administer an antibiotic to Patient Medical Record Number 2950161. Respondent's conduct placed the patient at risk for acquiring AIDS and caused the patient to experience multiple laboratory tests immediately after the incident and for the many months that followed the incident. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the patient at significant risk for suffering with severe emotional distress
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states he admits to his conduct in the incident. He states "There is no matter I wish to offer in defense; however, I do wish to say I continue to feel deep remorse for the emotional suffering of this patient."
- 9. Formal Charges were filed on April 10, 2015.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on April 17, 2015.

#### **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)(M),(1)(O)&(3)(A), and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)&(6)(C).
- 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 838164, heretofore issued to MARC LEE CATES, 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, subject to ratification by the Texas

Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 838164, previously issued to MARC LEE

CATES, to practice nursing in Texas is hereby **SUSPENDED** with the suspension **STAYED** and Respondent is hereby placed on **PROBATION**, in accordance with the terms of this Order, for a minimum of two (2) years **AND** until Respondent fulfills the requirements 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 medication administration 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 be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the six (6) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. 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. 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 preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

# 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.
- 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. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board..

## VI. 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.

MARC LEE CATES, Respondent

**SEAL** 

JUAN F. TISCARENO Notary Public State of Texas Comm. Expires 09/14/2018

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015, by MARC LEE CATES, Registered Nurse License Number 838164, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of August 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

In the Matter of	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse	§	
License Number 838164	§	
Issued to MARC LEE CATES,	8	
Respondent	§	<b>BOARD OF NURSING</b>

### FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, MARC LEE CATES, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 838164 which is in current 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 August 3, 2014, while employed as a Staff Registered Nurse with Parkland Health and Hospital System, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to implement measures to prevent exposure to infectious pathogens and communicable conditions when he used the intravenous pump, tubing, and normal saline fluid from the previous patient, a patient diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), to administer an antibiotic to Patient Medical Record Number 2950161. Respondent's conduct placed the patient at risk for acquiring AIDS and caused the patient to experience multiple laboratory tests immediately after the incident and for the many months that followed the incident. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the patient at significant risk for suffering with severe emotional distress.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(M),(1)(O)&(3)(A), and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(4).

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, <a href="www.bon.texas.gov">www.bon.texas.gov</a>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, which can be found at <a href="https://www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html">www.bon.texas.gov/disciplinaryaction/discp-matrix.html</a>.

Filed this 16th day of Opel , 20 15.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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D(2015.02.24)