BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 613908

issued to ALANA A. THOMAS

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board considered the matter of ALANA A. THOMAS, Registered Nurse License Number 613908, 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)&(12), 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 July 22, 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 volunteer retired status.
- 4. Respondent received a Diploma in Nursing from Vanier College, Montreal, Canada, on May 1, 1982. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 16, 1995.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1982-1991

RN

St. Mary's Hospital

Montreal, Canada

1991-1995

RN

Dr. Austin Gardiner

Montreal, Canada

613908:153

C10i

Executive Director of the Boar

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1995-1996	RN	San Antonio Community Hospital San Antonio, Texas
1997-2012	RN	Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital San Antonio, Texas
2012-2013	RN	Methodist Children's Hospital San Antonio, Texas
2013-01/15	Unknown	
02/15-Present	Retired	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and had been in that position for approximately ten (10) years.
- 7. On or about December 21, 2007, to February 18, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she was diagnosed with, and treated for a mental health condition that could result in an injury to a patient or the public. Additionally, on multiple occasions, Respondent was sent home from her shift after becoming incapacitated with anxiety. 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.
- 8. On or about September 10, 2008; August 15, 2010; and September 18, 2012, Respondent submitted a Texas Board of Nursing-Online Renewal Document, Registered Nurse, in which she provided false, deceptive, and/or misleading information, in that she answered "no" to the following question:

"In the past 5 years, have you been diagnosed with or treated or hospitalized for schizophrenia or other psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder? (You may answer "no" if you have completed and/or are in compliance with TPAPN for mental illness)"

Respondent failed to disclose that, On or about December 21, 2007, Respondent was diagnosed with, and treated for a mental health condition that could result in an injury to a patient or the public.

- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states these findings are true. Respondent states while employed with Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital she was sent home several times because she lacked fitness to practice nursing while being treated for a mental health condition. Respondent states she is being followed by a psychologist and psychiatrist and has been treated with different medications, which sometimes were unsuccessful.
- 10. Formal Charges were filed on July 8, 2015.
- 11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 10, 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 \$217.12(1)(A),(4)&(5).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 613908, heretofore issued to ALANA A. THOMAS.
- 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** and Respondent's license(s) shall be placed in **INACTIVE** status.

Should RESPONDENT decide in the future to reactivate her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL be required to satisfy all then existing

requirements for reactivation and RESPONDENT'S reactivated license(s) SHALL BE subject to, at a minimum, the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Order had Respondent not chosen to inactivate his/her nursing license(s).

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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. I further understand that, should I decide in the future to reactivate my license(s), I will be required to satisfy, at a minimum, the additional requirements that would have been part of this Order had the license(s) not been placed in inactive status, as stated herein, as well as all then existing requirements for reactivation.

	Signed this 6 day of AUGUST, 2015. ALANA A. THOMAS, Respondent
Sworn to and subscribed before me to	i
TOTARY PUBLIC	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 6th day of August, 2015, by ALANA A. THOMAS, Registered Nurse License Number 613908, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of September, 20 15.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board