BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 614003 \$
issued to ELSA FELAN MOLINA \$ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bo considered the matter of ELSA FELAN MOLINA, Registered Nurse License Number 614003, 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 July 21, 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 a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, Texas, on December 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 21, 1995.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1994 - 2002	Staff Nurse	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas
2002 - 2004	House Supervisor	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2004 - 2008	Staff Nurse/NICU	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas
2008 - 2011	RN Case Manager	Driscoll Children's Hospital Corpus Christi, Texas
07/11 - 03/13	RN	PSA Healthcare Corpus Christi, Texas

04/13 - Present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with PSA Healthcare, Corpus Christi, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and eight (8) months.
- During March 2013, while employed with PSA Healthcare, Corpus Christi, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care for Patient Medical Record Number 292049, who was ventilator dependent, Respondent was found to be sleeping while on duty on two occasions. When counseled, Respondent admitted to falling asleep. Respondent's conduct could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in the patient's condition, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 8. During March 2013, while employed with PSA Healthcare, Corpus Christi, Texas, and assigned to provide nursing care for Patient Medical Record Number 292049, who was ventilator dependent, Respondent used her personal electronic device and headphones while on duty, which resulted in Respondent not hearing the patient when he called out to her for assistance. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm from a delay of nursing care as needed by the patient.
- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states that on one occasion they were returning home from a doctor's visit, the mother was driving, and she was sitting in the back with the patient. "The mother of the patient, probably assumed that I was asleep..." The mother was using her cell phone, when she answered the phone she over corrected the vehicle, the wheelchair jumped and was repositioned. The patient was unaffected physically, but they were both frightened. Respondent took her rosary out of her pocket and started to pray and she closed her eyes, but she was fully aware of her surroundings. Regarding the use of personal electronic devices, Respondent states that she would take her Kindle to the home for the patient to use, however he dropped it sometime in January 2013 and it was no longer functional. There were occasions when she used her personal phone to contact the Durable Medical Equipment broker or to make appointments for the patient. On one occasion she spent almost an hour on the phone speaking to the manufacture regarding settings on CPT machine that was not functioning correctly. The

patient's father was upset because she was on the phone for so long. She denies that any of her phone calls were personal. At times when she was on the phone she would step out of the room because the reception was not good in the room, but she was right outside the door, within hearing distance from the patient. The company switched to electronic medical charting input device. There was little orientation to the use and she states that the father told her to "quit playing on that device." She would document on the device every two hours.

- 10. Formal Charges were filed on May 5, 2015.
- 11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on May 11, 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)(T) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE§217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E)&(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 614003, heretofore issued to ELSA FELAN MOLINA.
- 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) 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. 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 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.

Pursing 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 2th day of August, 2015.

LSA FELAN MOLINA, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of August, 2015.

SEAL

KORINA ZAMORA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
May 5, 2018

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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 <u>12th</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2015, by ELSA FELAN MOLINA, Registered Nurse License Number 614003, and said Order is final.

Effective this _8th day of _September_, 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board