## BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 760292 §

issued to JOSE OMAR FLORES JR § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of JOSE OMAR FLORES JR, Registered Nurse License Number 760292, 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 October 9, 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 South Texas Community College, McAllen, Texas, on August 4, 2008. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on August 26, 2008.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2008-11/2008 Registered Nurse

McAllen Medical Center

McAllen, Texas

11/2008-9/2011

Registered Nurse

Mission Regional Medical Center

Mission, Texas

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

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

10/2011-Present Registered Nurse Air Evac Lifeteam McAllen, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a RN with Mission Regional Medical Center, Mission, Texas, and had been in this position for two (2) years and ten (10) months.
- 7. On or about August 26, 2011, while employed with Mission Regional Medical Center, Mission, Texas, Respondent failed to assess or intervene for Patient Medical Record Number 214082, and Respondent failed to notify the patient's physician, after the patient fell to the floor from a stretcher. Instead, Respondent stood at the patient's doorway and watched as a security guard assisted the patient back to the bed. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to risk of harm from undetected injury, ineffective treatment and deprived the patient's physician the opportunity to institute timely medical interventions to stabilize the patient which could result in a delay in the patient's recovery.
- 8. On or about August 26, 2011, while employed with Mission Regional Medical Center, Mission, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately document in the medical record of Patient Medical Record Number 214082. Respondent entered the patient's room six (6) minutes after the security guard had assisted the patient back to the stretcher he had fallen from and raised the side rails. Respondent then returned to the nursing station and did not return to the patient for approximately one hour, at which time Respondent took the patient's blood pressure. Respondent's documentation gave the inaccurate perception that he had completed a thorough head-to-toe assessment, including neuro checks, which resulted in an inaccurate medical record.
- 9. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states that when the security guard told him that the patient had fallen from the stretcher he went to the room and he and the security guard assisted the patient to standing and then to the bed at which time the patient had no complaints or obvious signs of deformities or injury or any neurologic deficits. Respondent states that he was able to assess the patient by observing him, and the patient did not have any physical complaints or impairment. Further, Respondent had never been told that he was to notify the physician of a patient fall. Respondent states that he documented what he was told by the security guard and what he observed, including that the patient had no complaints.

### 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)(P)&(3)(A) and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)&(6)(A).
- 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 760292, heretofore issued to JOSE OMAR FLORES JR.
- 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 A FINE** 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

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.
- 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. 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.
- **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 <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>.

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

### V. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse in the State of Texas, 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.

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- C. Incident Reporting: While employed as a Flight Nurse with RESPONDENT'S current employer, Air Evac Lifeteam, McAllen, Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.
- D. Indirect Supervision: Should RESPONDENT'S employment as a Flight Nurse with RESPONDENT'S current employer, Air Evac Lifeteam, McAllen, Texas, cease or change, 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

# 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 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 mursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

SE OMARYLORES JR. Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2/ day of De

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Approved as to form and substance.

Notary Public in and for the State of

Elizabeth Hispinbotham, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 2/ day of Det

# WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does

hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 21st day of October, 2015, by JOSE

OMAR FLORES JR, Registered Nurse License Number 760292, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of November, 2015.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board