



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Matter of § AGREED  
Registered Nurse License Number 728357 §  
issued to MICHELE CLARK TOMASTIK § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MICHELE CLARK TOMASTIK, Registered Nurse License Number 728357, 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 11, 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 Temple College, Temple, Texas, on May 12, 2006. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 8, 2006.
5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:
 

06/2006 - 12/2012	RN	Scott and White Hospital Temple, Texas
-------------------	----	---

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

12/2012 - Present

Unknown

6. On June 2012, through December 2012, while employed with Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas, Respondent withdrew Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam for patients, but failed to completely and accurately document the administration of the medications, including the signs, symptoms and responses to the medications administered in the patients' Medication Administration Record and/or Nurses Notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients, which could result in an overdose and Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
7. On June 2012, and November 2012, while employed with Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas, Respondent withdrew Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam for patients, but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of any of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy and placed them in violation of Chapter 481 of the Texas Health and Safety Code (Controlled Substances Act).
8. On June 2012, and November 2012, while employed with Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas, Respondent withdrew Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam for patients that had already been discharged. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility of the cost of the medications.
9. On June 2012, and November 2012, while employed with Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas, Respondent withdrew Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam for patients, without a physician's order. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
10. On June 2012, and November 2012, while employed with Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas Respondent misappropriated Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam from the facility and patients thereof, for her own person use. Additionally, on or about December 14, 2012, Respondent admitted to taking the Dilaudid, Morphine and Lorazepam for her own personal use. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients of the cost of the medications.
11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Six (6), through Ten (10), Respondent explains that there was a situation with a gun man at work, and this eventually led to PTSD and Anxiety. Respondent states that she was put in a trauma room every shift, and that she continually asked for help as it was overwhelming. Respondent explains that she eventually went into a downward spiral, as she had no one to turn to and was having a hard time dealing with her

emotions. Respondent states that she takes full responsibility for any and all of her actions, and admits that she pulled medications for others in times of trauma. Respondent states that she sees how lazy her practice had become. Respondent admits that she had also taken medications home the several weeks before she actually resigned. Respondent states that after she resigned, she went straight to her therapist, and contacted TPAPN as she was referred. She states that she explained to TPAPN that she had completed main treatment for five (5) months with monthly follow-ups with her therapist. Respondent further states that she told TPAPN that she had not done AA or NA as she did not have an issue or diagnosis with either of those.

12. Respondent submitted a report written by Prudie Orr, PhD, NP stating that Respondent presented for an evaluation on June 7, 2013. Dr. Orr concludes that Respondent's intent regarding narcotics was specific to suicide and she presents no evidence of substance use disorder. According to Dr. Orr, Respondent was suffering from severe Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and severe Major Depressive Disorder at the time, but instead of going through with a suicidal plan, she sought care of a psychiatrist and psychotherapist. Dr. Orr recommends that Respondent continues in psychiatric and psychological treatment.
13. On or about February 20, 2015, Respondent was charged by the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas Waco Division, Waco, Texas, for THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, 18 U.S.C. 641, committed on or about August 26, 2014, through September 28, 2014. On or about June 3, 2015, Respondent entered into an agreement in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas Waco Division, Waco, Texas, under Cause No. W15CR033, to participate in the United States Pretrial Diversion Program for a period of twelve (12) months, beginning June 3, 2015. On or about June 9, 2015, Cause No. W15CR033 was dismissed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas Waco Division, Waco, Texas, although Respondent is still currently in the Pre-Trial Diversion Program.
14. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

#### 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)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),

(6)(G),(8),(10)(B),(10)(C)&(11)(B).

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 728357, heretofore issued to MICHELE CLARK TOMASTIK.
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. **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. **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 not 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](http://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. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, tramadol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, tramadol, and controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when Respondent obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
- For the first three (3) month [1<sup>st</sup> quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
  - For the next three (3) month [2<sup>nd</sup> quarter] period, random screens

shall be performed at least twice per month.

- For the next six (6) month period [3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.
- For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Screens obtained through urinalysis are the sole method accepted by the Board. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

**Specimens shall be screened** for at least the following substances and their metabolites:

Amphetamines	Meperidine
Barbiturates	Methadone
Benzodiazepines	Methaqualone
Cannabinoids	Opiates
Cocaine	Phencyclidine
Ethanol	Propoxyphene
tramadol hydrochloride (Ultram)	

**A Board representative may appear** at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the stipulation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

**Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens.** Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to further disciplinary action, including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

## VI. THERAPY

While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL



**participate in therapy with a professional counselor approved by the Board.**

RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. For the first three (3) month quarterly period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, reports are to be submitted to the Board each and every month. If therapy is recommended by the counselor for an additional period of time, the reports shall then be submitted to the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period in which the RESPONDENT is working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, for the remainder of the term of the Order, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy, whichever is earlier.

**VII. PROBATION REPORTS**

RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE his/her probation officer to submit written reports on forms provided to the Respondent by the Board. The reports shall indicate the RESPONDENT'S compliance with the court ordered probation. The reports shall be furnished each and every three (3) month quarterly period until RESPONDENT is released from probation.

**VIII. 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.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

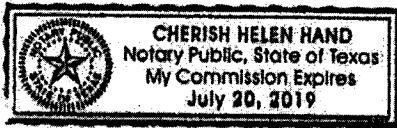
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said 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.

Signed this 11 day of November 15.  
Michele Clark Tomastik  
MICHELE CLARK TOMASTIK, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11 day of November, 2015.

SEAL

Cherish Helen Hand  
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 11th day of November, 2015, by MICHELE CLARK TOMASTIK, Registered Nurse License Number 728357, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of December, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas".

---

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN  
Executive Director on behalf  
of said Board