#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of § AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 649850 §

issued to CONSTANCE NELSON WILLIAMS § ORDER



On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CONSTANCE NELSON WILLIAMS, Registered Nurse License Number 649850, 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), 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 June 12, 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 Armstrong State College, Savannah, Georgia, on December 1, 1992 and a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Chamberlain College of Nursing, Houston, Texas, on December 1, 2013. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 26, 1998.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

3/98-7/09

Unknown

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

8/09-9/10 RN Texas Regional Medical Center

Sunnyvale, Texas

9/10-3/12

Methodist Hospital for Surgery

Addison, Texas

3/12-Unknown

DON

RN

Surgical & Diagnostic Surgery Center

Hurst, Texas

Unknown-Present

Director, Clinical

**Evolution Medical** 

Services

Southlake, Texas, and Denton, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as Director of Nursing with Surgical & Diagnostic Surgery Center, Hurst, Texas, and had been in that position for approximately ten (10) months.

- 7. On or about January 11, 2013, through June 13, 2014, while employed as the Director of Nursing with Surgical & Diagnostic Center, Hurst, Texas Respondent forged multiple nurses' signatures on over one hundred (100) narcotic count sheets. Respondent's conduct resulted in inaccurate medical records and was likely to deceive the pharmacy.
- 8. In response to Findings of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that on various occasions she would sign the document sheet with her name and another nurse. LH was used most because she had stated that when she was busy, to just sign her name so Respondent did. Respondent admits she knows this was against policy but was trying to be more efficient. Additionally, Respondent states every Wednesday a pharmacist would come and check all the narcotic records and counts and there were never narcotics/drugs missing. Respondent explains she didn't do it daily only when nurses were with patients and not available to count.

## **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(6)(A)&(6)(H).

- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 649850, heretofore issued to CONSTANCE NELSON WILLIAMS.
- 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. ABoard-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 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.
- C. 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 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. Respondent's current position as Director, Clinical Services, with Evolution Medical Services with locations in

Southlake, Texas, and Denton, Texas, is acceptable for completing the terms of this Order as long as Respondent provides direct patient care at either or both office locations totaling a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month. 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 by a Physician or Registered Nurse for Current Position: For so long as Respondent remains in her current position as Director, Clinical Services, with Evolution Medical Services, with locations at Southlake, Texas, and Denton, Texas, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised at each office location by a Physician or Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising physician or 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. If being supervised by a nurse, 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. Indirect Supervision by Registered Nurse for Subsequent Positions, if any: Should Respondent's current position as a Director, Clinical Services, with Evolution Medical Services, with locations at Southlake, Texas, and Denton, Texas, cease or change, RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered 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 person 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 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.

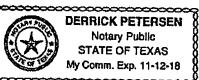
Signed this 2 day of <u>December</u>, 20 5.

Constance Nebu Wellis

CONSTANCE NELSON WILLIAMS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this Z day of December, 2015.

SEAL



Notary Public in and for the State of TENAS

Approved as to form and substance.

Oscar San Miguel
OSCAR SAN MIGUEL. Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 2nd day of December , 20 15.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>2nd</u> day of <u>December</u>, <u>2015</u>, by CONSTANCE NELSON WILLIAMS, Registered Nurse License Number 649850, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of January, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board