### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 828087
issued to DESIRAE ELIZABETH SPRINGER



#### ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day, the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, accepted the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 828087, issued to DESIRAE ELIZABETH SPRINGER, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.
- 2. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing.
- 3. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Texarkana Community College, Texarkana, Texas, on May 15, 2012. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 15, 2012.
- 4. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/12	Unknown	
01/13 - 03/14	Staff Nurse	Wadley Regional Medical Center Texarkana, Texas
04/14 - Present	Unknown	

- On or about February 24, 2014, through March 3, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wadley Regional Medical Center, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent withdrew Hydrocodone/APAP 10mg/325mg, Hydrocodone/APAP 5mg/325mg, Lorazepam 2mg/1ml, and Morphine Sulfate 2mg/1ml, from the medication dispensing system for patients in excess frequency and/or dosage of physicians' orders, and/or administered medication in excess frequency and/or excess dosage of physicians' orders. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients in that the administration of medication in excess frequency and/or dosage of the physicians' orders could result in the patients suffering from adverse reactions. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 6. On or about February 24, 2014, through March 3, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wadley Regional Medical Center, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent withdrew six (6) tabs of Hydrocodone/APAP 10mg/325mg, twenty-six (26) tabs of Hydrocodone/APAP 5mg/325mg, nine (9) vials of Lorazepam 2mg/1ml, and four (4) syringes of Morphine Sulfate 2mg, from the medication dispensing system for patients, but failed to document, and/or accurately and completely document, the administration of the medications in the patients' Medication Administration Record (MAR) and/or Nurse's Notes. More specifically, Respondent documented administering medications before they were pulled and/or documented administering medications fifteen (15) minutes or longer after they were pulled. 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. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 7. On or about February 28, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wadley Regional Medical Center, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent withdrew two (2) tabs of Hydrocodone/APAP 5mg/325mg, from the medication dispensing system for a patient but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medication. Respondent's conduct left medications unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 8. On or about February 28, 2014, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Wadley Regional Medical Center, Texarkana, Texas, Respondent misappropriated two (2) tablets of Hydrocodone/APAP 5mg/325mg belonging to a patient, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications.
- 9. Formal Charges were filed on March, 23, 2016.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on March 24, 2016.

11. On April 14, 2016, the Board received a notarized statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's notarized statement, dated April 13, 2016, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

#### **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)&(3), and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B), (1)(C),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(C),(10)(E)&(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 828087, heretofore issued to DESIRAE ELIZABETH SPRINGER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
- 7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TAC§§213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

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#### **ORDER**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 828087, heretofore issued to DESIRAE ELIZABETH SPRINGER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional nursing, use the title of "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until: one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order.
- 3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Effective this 14th day of April, 2016.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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By:

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

# Desirae Elizabeth Springer 2937 S. Cedar Ridge Dr. Ridgefield, Washington 98642 Registered Nurse License Number: 828087

## Voluntary Surrender Statement

Dear Texas Board of Nursing:

I no longer desire to be a licensed nurse. Therefore, I voluntarily surrender license(s) to practice in Texas. I waive legal representation at this time. I understand I may not petition for reinstatement until (1) year after the effective date. I understand that I will be required to comply with the Board's Rules and Regulations in effect at the time I submit for reinstatement.

Signature

Registered Nurse License Number 828087

The State Of Texas Washington

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this date personally appeared Desirae Elizabeth Springer who, being duly sworn by me, stated that he or she executed the above for the purpose therein contained and that he or she understood the same.

Sworn to before me the BHD day of April

2016.

**SEAL** 

Notary in the state of Washing

Country of Clasic

Notary Public State of Washington DEBORAH G RAFFELSON My Appointment Expires Sep 10, 2018