BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 322464 §
issued to PRISCILLA LEE SILVA § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PRISCILLA LEE SILVA, Vocational Nurse License Number 322464, 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 March 16, 2016.

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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Odessa College-Andrews EXT, Andrews, Texas on August 16, 2014. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 25, 2014.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2014 - 10/2014 Unknown

11/2014 - 6/2015 Licensed Vocational Nurse

Correctional Healthcare Companies Big Spring Correctional Center Flightline Unit Big Spring, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

7/2015 - 2/2016 Lice

Licensed Vocational Nurse

Big Spring State Hospital

Big Spring, Texas

2/2016 - Present

Licensed Vocational Nurse

Texas State Veterans Home

Unknown

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Correctional Healthcare Companies and assigned to Big Spring Correctional Center, Flightline Unit, Big Spring, Texas, and had been in that position for seven (7) months.

- 7. On or about June 9, 2015, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Correctional Healthcare Companies and assigned to the Big Spring Correctional Center's Flightline Unit, Big Spring, Texas, Respondent failed to appropriately assess and provide necessary interventions to Patient M.R.C., BOP Number 81392-308, when he complained of itching and burning to both of his feet. Respondent failed to care for the patient inside of his cell nor transport him to the medical unit regarding his medical complaint. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to risk of harm and prevented the patient from receiving timely medical interventions.
- 8. On or about June 9, 2015, while employed as a Staff Nurse with Correctional Healthcare Companies and assigned to the Big Spring Correctional Center's Flightline Unit, Big Spring, Texas, Respondent falsely documented vital signs and an assessment for foot fungus in the medical record of the aforementioned Patient M.R.C., BOP Number 81392-308, when Respondent failed to see and care for the patient. Respondent's conduct was deceptive and resulted in an inaccurate medical record that exposed the patient unnecessarily to the risk of harm in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to provide further care.
- 9. In response to the incidents in Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Eight (8), Respondent states due to the fact security was initiating count time of the inmates, she was not able to see inmate BOP number 81392-308. Respondent states her plan was to chart on the patient's chart, come back to give the patient his cream, and sign off on the chart. Respondent states she never made it to see the patient. Respondent states she may have accidentally documented a duplicate of the patient's vital signs in his chart mistakenly, but not on purpose, and the reason she documented an assessment was because the patient stated his problem area and what he needed.
- 10. Formal Charges were filed on February 19, 2016.
- 11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on February 23, 2016.

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 $\S\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(M)\&(2)(A)$, and 217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)(1)(C),(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 Vocational Nurse License Number 322464, heretofore issued to PRISCILLA LEE SILVA.
- 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

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 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 <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 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>.

IV. MONETARY FINE

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 clinical 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

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- 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.

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 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 3rd day of MAU., 20 16

PRISCILLA LEE SILVA, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

_day off

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SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

JEANIE A KNOCKE

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS

MY COMM. EXP. 11/18/19

NOTARY ID 1034701-0

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>3rd</u> day of <u>May</u>, 20<u>16</u>, by PRISCILLA LEE SILVA, Vocational Nurse License Number 322464, and said Order is final.

Effective this 14th day of June, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board