BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



AGREED

In the Matter of §

Registered Nurse License Number 669992

issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER ORDER xecutive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, Registered Nurse License Number 669992, hereinafter referred to as Respondent. This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

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

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 suspended status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from El Centro at Brookhaven, Farmers Branch, Texas, on May 1, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 5, 2000.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

7/00 - 2/10

Staff Nurse

Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas

Dallas, Texas

2/10 - present

Unknown

- 6. On June 28, 2013, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing, requiring her to participate in and complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). Respondent has not completed the terms of the Order. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order of the Board, dated June 28, 2013, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about April 12, 2016, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on June 28, 2013. Respondent's non-compliance is the result of her failure to comply with Stipulation Number Three (3) of the Order, dated June 28, 2013, which reads:
 - "(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current."

On or about April 21, 2015, March 3, 2016, March 24, 2016, April 8, 2016, and April 11, 2016, Respondent missed drug screens.

Respondent was dismissed from the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN).

- 8. Formal Charges were filed on May 31, 2016.
- 9. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on May 31, 2016.
- 10. Respondent, by his/her signature to this Order, expresses his/her desire to voluntarily surrender his/her license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 11. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
- 12. 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 §217.12(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 669992, heretofore issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 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.
- 6. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 7. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
- 8. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that the VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Registered Nurse License Number 669992, heretofore issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself/himself 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:
 - A. One (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and
 - B. RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the

petition for reinstatement.

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.

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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 this Order becomes final when accepted by the Executive Director at which time the terms of this Order become effective and a copy will be mailed to me.

Signed this /

__, 20__/__

AREN PATRICIA TURNER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

JOSE RIOS
Notary Public
STATE OF TEXAS

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept the voluntary surrender of Registered Nurse License Number 669992, previously issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER.

| Effective this | 24th | day | of | June | , 20 | 16 |
|----------------|------|-----|----|------|------|----|
| | | | | | | |

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Stephine a. Momas

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

669992:141



In the Matter of

AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 669992

§

executive Director of the Board

issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board. considered the matter of KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, Registered Nurse License Number 669992, 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)(9),(10)&(12) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on April 29, 2013.

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).
- Respondent waived informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this 2. Order.
- Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. 3.
- Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from El Centro At Brookhaven, 4. Farmers Branch, Texas, on May 1, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 5, 2000.
- 5. Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes:

7/00 - 2/10

Staff Nurse

Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas

Dallas, Texas

2/10 - present

Unknown

669992:143

C40 (13.01.23)

- 6. On or about October 22, 2009, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED, a Class B misdemeanor offense committed on June 4, 2009, in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Collin County, Texas, under Cause No. 3-86346-09. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Collin County Jail for a period of ninety (90) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of nine (9) months and ordered to pay a fine and court cost.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, Texas, and had been in this position for nine (9) years and Seven (7) months.
- 8. On or about November 20, 2009, while employed at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Metabolite Benzoylecgonine (Cocaine) in that she produced a specimen for a random drug screen which resulted positive for Metabolite Benzoylecgonine (Cocaine). Possession of Cocaine is prohibited by Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code (controlled Substance Act). The use of Cocaine by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 9. On or about April 13, 2011, while employed at Select Pain & Treatment Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Alcohol in that she produced a specimen for a random drug screen which resulted positive for Ethyl Glucronide ETG/Ethyl Sulfate ETS (Alcohol). The use of alcohol by a Registered Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 10. On or about February 27, 2012, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she was experiencing paranoid delusion, most likely associated to her cocaine abuse. Respondent's conduct could have affected her ability to recognized signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
- 11. On or about February 8, 2013, Respondent entered a plea of Guilty to and was convicted of DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED 2ND, a Class A misdemeanor offense committed on June 23, 2012, in the Criminal County Court of Dallas County, Texas, under Cause No. MA1258957. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Dallas County Jail for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days; however, imposition of the sentence of confinement was suspended, and Respondent was placed on probation for a period of eighteen (18) months and ordered to pay a fine and court costs.

- 12. The Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 13. 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.
- 14. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 15. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, 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(1)(A),(5),(10)(A),(D)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 669992, heretofore issued to KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL, within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this final Order, apply to TPAPN and SHALL, within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this final Order, sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the

enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.

- (2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- (3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.
- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED, RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Texas Occupations Code, Section §§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.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license(s) is/are encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Texas Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY 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.

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. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Conditions One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, and 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 revocation of my license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

| the State of Texas, as a conseque | nce of my noncompliance. |
|--|--|
| | Signed this / day of MML, 20/3 |
| | Jasen Currel |
| | KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, RESPONDENT |
| Sworn to and subscribed before m | e this 14th day of June, 20 13. |
| SEAL | Quirian a. Roma |
| MIRIAN M ROMERO Notary Public STATE OF TEXAS | Notary Public in and for the State of Texa |
| My Comm: Exp. 08-15-15 | Approved as to form and substance. |
| | Ce X |
| | Louis Leichter, Attorney for Respondent |
| | Signed this 2 day of , 20 1.3 |
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WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the

Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 14th

day of June, 2013, by KAREN PATRICIA TURNER, Registered Nurse License Number 669992,

and said Order is final.

Entered and effective this 28th day of June, 2013.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board