



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
Vocational Nurse License Number 168304 §
issued to SANDRA MARIE OTOOLE § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SANDRA MARIE OTOOLE, Vocational Nurse License Number 168304, 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 June 24, 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 St. Philips College, New Braunfels, Texas, on July 9, 1998. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on August 28, 1998.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

08/98-03/12	Unknown	
04/12-11/13	LVN	Emeritus Assisted Living Ovieda, Florida

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

04/13-02/14	LVN	Vitas Hospice San Antonio, Texas
03/14-10/15	LVN	Epic Health Services San Antonio, Texas
11/15-Present	Unknown	

6. On or about October 6, 2015, through October 10, 2015, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Epic Health Services, San Antonio, Texas, Respondent inaccurately documented vital signs, daily care, narrative notes, intake, and feeding tube care in the records of Patient Medical Record Number 5750, when she was not at the patients home. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record on which subsequent care givers would rely on to provide ongoing medical care.
7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent states during this week she fell behind on her documentation and tried, to the best of her recollection, to complete the nurses notes at the end of the week. Respondent states she made a mistake on her in/out times and the patient's mothers noticed the mistake and notified Epic.

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)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 217.12(1)(A), (1)(B), (1)(C), (4), (6)(A) & (6)(H).
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 168304, heretofore issued to SANDRA MARIE OTOOLE.
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, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REMEDIAL EDUCATION WITH 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 **"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.*

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. 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 30 day of July, 2016.

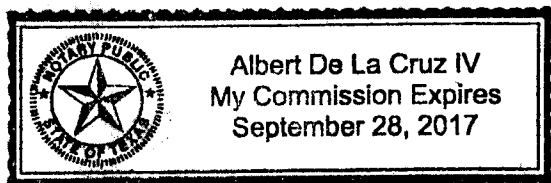
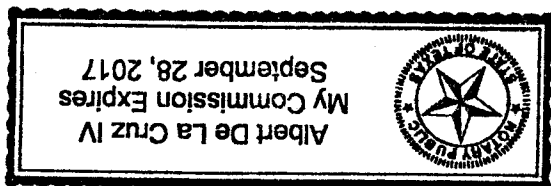
Sandra Marie O'Toole
SANDRA MARIE OTOOLE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 day of July, 2016.

SEAL

A De La Cruz

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 30th day of July, 20 16, by SANDRA MARIE OTOOLE, Vocational Nurse License Number 168304, and said Order is final.

Effective this 3rd day of August, 20 16.



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