

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 781055 \$
& Vocational Nurse License Number 201646 \$
issued to HEATHER ANN KING \$ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of HEATHER ANN KING, Registered Nurse License Number 781055 and Vocational Nurse License Number 201646, 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),(12)&(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 December 5, 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 delinquent status. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Saint Phillips College, San Antonio, Texas, on September 26, 2005, and received a Baccalaureate Degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas, on December 19, 2009. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 15, 2005, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on February 9, 2010.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

12/2005 - 01/2010	Unknown	
02/2010 - 01/2011	RN	San Antonio State Hospital San Antonio, Texas
08/2010 - 06/2014	RN	Methodist Hospital San Antonio, Texas
07/2014 - 11/2014	Unknown	· ,
12/2014 - 06/2015	RN	San Antonio State Hospital San Antonio, Texas
07/2015 - 09/2015	Unknown	
10/2015 - 04/2016	RN	Christus Santa Rosa Hospital San Antonio, Texas
05/2016	Unknown	
06/2016 - 07/2016	RN	Uvalde Memorial Hospital Uvalde, Texas
08/2016 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about July 14, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she exhibited signs of impaired behavior while on duty, to include: starring at the computer screen, being lethargic and disoriented. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle 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.
- 8. On or about July 14, 2016 through July 15, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent withdrew one (1) syringe of Morphine 2mg from the medication dispensing system for Patient V00001023913 but failed to document and/or accurately and completely document the administration of the medication in the patients' Medication Administration Record (MAR) and/or Nurses' Notes. 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.

- 9. On or about July 14, 2016 through July 15, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent withdrew one (1) syringe of Morphine 2mg from the medication dispensing system for Patient V00001023913 but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medications. 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.
- 10. On or about July 14, 2016 through July 15, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas, Respondent misappropriated one (1) syringe of Morphine 2mg belonging to the facility and patients thereof, 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.
- On or about September 23, 2016, Respondent lacked fitness to practice professional nursing in that she was admitted into Brooke Army Medical Center for alcohol detoxification. Respondent's condition could have affected her ability to recognize subtle 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.
- 12. 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. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 14. 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 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 301.451-301.555, 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) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(5),(6)(G),(8),(10)(C)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13),

Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 781055 and Vocational Nurse License Number 201646, heretofore issued to HEATHER ANN KING.

- 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. 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.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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):

- A. Within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL apply to TPAPN;
- B. Within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee payable to TPAPN in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00);
- C. 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;
- D. 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; and
- E. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

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.

- 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. As a result of this Order, Respondent's license will be designated "single state" and 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.

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 entry of this Order:

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.

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. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

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 TEMPORARY 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.

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

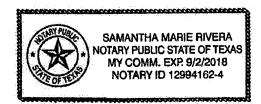
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order and all conditions of said 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.

Signed this 4th day of JANUAY, 2017.

HEATHER ANN KING, Respondent

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of 72x as



WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf o
the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the
4th day of January , 2016 , by HEATHER ANN KING, Registered
Nurse License Number 781055 and Vocational Nurse License Number 201646, and said Order i
final.
Effective this9 th day ofJanuary, 20_17 Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN Executive Director on behalf
of said Board