

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 604104

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issued to TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON, Registered Nurse License Number 604104, 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), 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 February 2, 2017.

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 current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree from Trinity Valley Community College, Kaufman, Texas, on April 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 10, 1994.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

06/1994 - 09/1995

RN

Parkland Memorial Hospital

Dallas, Texas

09/1995 - 07/1997

RN

Methodist Hospital of Dallas

Dallas, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

| 08/1997 - 04/2001 | Unknown | |
|-------------------|---------|--|
| 05/2001 - 07/2007 | RN | Baylor Medical Center Dallas, Texas |
| 07/2007 - 02/2013 | RN | Parkland Hospital Dallas, Texas |
| 02/2013 - 06/2014 | RN | Baylor Medical Center Dallas, Texas |
| 06/2014 - Present | RN | Medical City Denton Denton, Texas |

- 6. On or about April 21, 1998, Respondent was issued the sanction of Reprimand with Stipulations through an Agreed Order by the Texas Board of Nursing. Respondent completed the terms of the order. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order dated April 21, 1998, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this order.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical City Denton, Denton, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and six (6) months.
- 8. On or about December 12, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical City Denton, Denton, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate and/or unlawful use of Benzodiazepine in that she produced a specimen for a reasonable suspicion drug screen that resulted positive for Benzodiazepine. Unlawful possession of Benzodiazepine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health & Safety Code. The use of Benzodiazepine by a Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in a 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 a patient in potential danger.
- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states she self reported to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), and she's currently enrolled.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.

- 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 substance use disorder.
- 13. 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 §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(10)(A),(10)(D)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 604104, heretofore issued to TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON.
- 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.
- 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

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- 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 not 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 28 day of February 2017

Aina Wheth tour Con

TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of

g day of Februar

,2017.

Notary Public in and for the State of

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| WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of |
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| the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the |
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| Nurse License Number 604104, and said Order is final. |
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| Effective this <u>6th</u> day of <u>March</u> , 20 17. |
| Katheim a. Moman |
| Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN |
| Executive Director on behalf |
| of said Roard |



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. **Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

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In the Matter of Permanent Certificate Number 604104 issued to TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON

AGREED ORDER

On this day the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON, license number 604104, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

Information received by the Board produced evidence that Respondent may have violated Article 4525(b)(9), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended. Respondent waived informal conference, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order offered on January 26, 1998, by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director, subject to ratification by the Board.

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.
- 2. Respondent waived informal conference, notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in Texas.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Trinity Valley Community College, Kaufman, Texas, in May 1994.

5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

6/94 - 9/95

Staff Nurse

Parkland Memorial Hospital

Dallas, Texas

9/95 - 7/97

Staff Nurse

Methodist Hospital of Dallas

Dallas, Texas

7/97 - present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Methodist Hospital of Dallas, Dallas, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) year and ten (10) months.
- 7. Respondent, on or about June 29, 1997, while employed with Methodist Hospital of Dallas, Dallas, Texas, passed an unauthorized telephonic prescription for Fastin. Respondent's conduct deceived the pharmacy and was in violation of Health and Safety Code §481 (Controlled Substance Act).
- 8. Respondent, on or about June 29, 1997, while employed with the aforementioned facility, passed an unauthorized telephonic prescription for Doxycycline. Respondent's conduct deceived the pharmacy and was in violation of Health and Safety Code §483 (Texas Drug Laws).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Article 4525, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
- 3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violation of Article 4525(b)(9), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN., and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.13(1) and (16).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Article 4525(b), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN., to take disciplinary action against license number 604104, heretofore issued to TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON.

AGREED SANCTIONS

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a Reprimand with Stipulations, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Art. 4513 et. seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 et. seq. and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-size license issued to TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of this Order for appropriate notation.
- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience must include registered nurses. It must be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content should include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of \$600,00. RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT CHOOSE TO PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING, UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS FOR ONE (1) YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT:

- (4) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a copy of this Order to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all potential employers in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a copy of this Order to each potential employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.
- (5) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each potential employer to submit the Notification of Employment form to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to submit, on forms provided by the Board, periodic reports as to RESPONDENT's capability to practice professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by the Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license to practice professional 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 have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Agreed Sanctions, and any conditions of this Order to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me.

| Signed this 14h day of MARCH, 1998 |
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| Dina annote Hamilton |
| TINA ANNETTE HAMILTON, Respondent |

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of MARCH, 1998.

MIKE R. VASQUEZ, JR.
Notary Public, State of Texas

Notary Public in and for the State of

Approved as to form and substance.

AL MENDEZ, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 1 He day of MARCH, 1998.

| WHEREFO | RE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Boa | rd of Nurse Examiners for |
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| the State of Texas does her | eby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order tha | it was signed on the |
| 11th day of Marc | h, 19 <u>98</u> , by TINA ANNE | ITE HAMILTON, license |
| number 604104, and said C | | |
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| | Effective this 21st day of Apri | 1 , 19 98 . |
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| <i>i.,</i> | Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN | |
| | Executive Director on behalf of said Board | |