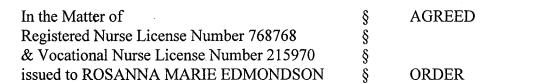
BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING





On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ROSANNA MARIE EDMONDSON, Registered Nurse License Number 768768 and Vocational Nurse License Number 215970, 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 December 13, 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. 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 Howard College at Big Spring, Big Spring, Texas, on May 9, 2008, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Howard College, Big Spring Texas, on May 15, 2009. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on May 22, 2008, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 4, 2009.

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5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

5/2008-12/2009 Unknown 1/2010-6/2012 Registered Nurse Big Spring State Hospital Big Spring, Texas 4/2012-7/2012 House Supervisor Lamen Lusk Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home Big Spring, Texas Registered Nurse 8/2012-1/2013 Martin County Hospital District Big Spring, Texas 9/2012-Unknown Registered Nurse GEO Group, Inc. Big Spring, Texas 7/2013-9/2015 Registered Nurse Big Spring State Hospital Big Spring, Texas Unknown 10/2015-Present

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with Big Spring State Hospital, Big Spring, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and one (1) month.
- 7. On or about August 22, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Big Spring State Hospital, Big Spring, Texas, Respondent failed to assess Patient Number 274658 prior to obtaining a telephone order for emergency psychiatric medication, and falsely documented in the medical record that an assessment was performed. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record, and was likely to injure the patient from clinical care decisions based upon incomplete assessment information.
- 8. On or about September 10, 2015, through November 3, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Big Spring State Hospital, Big Spring, Texas, Respondent violated patient privacy by transmitting confidential health records of ninety-six (96) patients from her personal e-mail account to multiple recipients outside of the Big Spring State Hospital. Additionally, Respondent made unauthorized copies of patient medical records and removed records of approximately four hundred (400) patients from the hospital, and kept them in her car and garage. Respondent's conduct exposed the patients unnecessarily to a risk of harm from use, accessing or disclosure of their confidential medical information without their written authorization and constitutes a violation of HIPAA (The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act).

9. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she observed two patients standing outside the RN office making homicidal threats, so she called the physician and obtained orders to give one of the two patients emergency medication. Respondent states that the unit LVN administered the medication to the patient. Respondent states that she later walked to the patient's bedroom area briefly to check on him and he had calmed down. Respondent states that it was a hostile work environment and she did not want to leave the RN office for this reason. Respondent adds that she was overwhelmed and having issues with concentration after conflict with a coworker, and was also on multiple medications at the time. In response to Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that she took well over four hundred records with de-identified private health information to use for internal civil rights reporting. Respondent states that she was dismissed from her job and was not allowed to dispose of the information and they did not attempt to get it back from her, but she returned much of the documents to the Office of the Inspector General except for the copies that her cats used as a litter box.

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 $\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D),(1)(E)\&(3)(A)$ and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE $\S217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(6)(A)$.
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 768768 and Vocational Nurse License Number 215970, heretofore issued to ROSANNA MARIE EDMONDSON, 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.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas

Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 768768 and Vocational Nurse License

Number 215970, previously issued to ROSANNA MARIE EDMONDSON, to practice nursing in Texas are hereby **SUSPENDED** with the suspension **STAYED** and Respondent is hereby placed on **PROBATION**, in accordance with the terms of this Order, for a minimum of two (2) years **AND** until Respondent fulfills the requirements 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 physical assessment with a didactic portion of not less than six (6) hours and a clinical component of not less than twenty-four (24) hours. Both the didactic and clinical components must be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. 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.
- **D.** 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.
- E. <u>The course "Patient Privacy,"</u> a 5.4 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 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. 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 eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) 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. Direct Supervision: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on regularly assigned, identified and predetermined unit(s). RESPONDENT SHALL NOT be 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. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period,

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 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.

E. 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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

V. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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 14th day of February, 20 17.

ROSANNA MARIE EDMONDSON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 101th day of Feburare

VERONICA M BRAVO
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
May 08, 2018

Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 14th day of February, 2017, by ROSANNA MARIE EDMONDSON, Registered Nurse License Number 768768 and Vocational Nurse License Number 215970, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of March, 2017

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Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board