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In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 301840

§

issued to MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA, Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, 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)(1),(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 March 6, 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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Cisco College, Abilene, Texas on December 9, 2010. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on August 2, 2011.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

08/2011 - 10/2011 Unknown

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accurate, and true copy of the document whi is on file or is of record in the offices of the company is on file or is of record in the offices of the company is on the company in the company is on the company in the company is on the company in the company in the company is on the company in the company in the company is on the company in the company in the company in the company is on the company in the company in the company in the company is on the company in the

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

11/2011 - 7/2013 LVN Rosa's First Quality Home Care

Arlington, Texas

7/2013 - 9/2016 LVN Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health

Sherman, Texas

10/2016 - Present Charge Nurse Southwest Nursing and Rehabilitation

Fort Worth, Texas

6. On or about March 8, 2016, Respondent was issued the sanction of a Warning with Stipulations through an Agreed Order by the Board. Respondent did not complete the terms of this order. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated March 8, 2016, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

- 7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Field Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and eight (8) months.
- 8. On or about March 25, 2016, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on March 8, 2016. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to cause her then present employer, Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, to submit the Board's "Notification of Employment" form to the Board's office. Respondent failed to comply with Section III, Stipulation B of the of the Agreed Order, dated March 8, 2016, which states, in pertinent part:
  - "B. ... 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. ..."
- 9. On or about June 20, 2016, and September 20, 2016, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on March 8, 2016. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to cause her then present employer, Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, to submit periodic reports to the Board's office. Respondent failed to comply with Section III, Stipulation D of the of the Agreed Order, dated March 8, 2016, which states, in pertinent part:

- "D. ... 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse."
- 10. On or about September 21, 2016, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care Pediatric Home Health, Sherman, Texas, Respondent was found sleeping, on two occasions, while on duty in patient Medical Record Number SO500090's home. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that it adversely affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) and Nine (9), Respondent states she did not intentionally fail to cause her employer to submit the Notification of Employment form and the periodic reports to the Board. Respondent assumed her employer would send the required documents and accepts responsibility for her actions. In regards to Finding of Fact Number Nine (10), Respondent states she was not sleeping on duty and provided nursing care to her patient. Respondent believes the patient, and the patient's family, have a grievance against her for not following through with the patient's request to wake up the patient's mother.
- 12. On or about February 23, 2017, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved class in Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, which would have been a requirement of this Order.

#### 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)(B) and 22 Tex. Admin. Code \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1),(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, heretofore issued to MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA.

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 that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of **REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS AND 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. SUPERCEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Order SHALL supercede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

# IV. 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.

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 <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

### V. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) 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.

### VI. 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, <u>for a minimum of</u>

forty-eight (48) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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. Indirect Supervision: 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.
- D. 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 individual who supervises the RESPONDENT and these reports shall be submitted by the supervising individual to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period for four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

# VII. 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 miderstand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. There reviewed this Order. Lucither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, Lugree 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 affective, 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 plusting inside State of Texas, as a consequence of my poucempliance.

Signed this 6 day of APril 2017

MAUREEN AWING WASONGA, Respondent

Sword to and subscribed before me this to day of April 2017

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Approved as to form and substation.

Namey Hoper-Willson, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this day of 20

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 6th day of April, 2017, by MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA, Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of May, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

#### BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



AGREED In the Matter of

Vocational Nurse License Number 301840 ORDER

issued to MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA, Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, 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 22, 2015.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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 received a Certificate in Nursing from Cisco College, Abilene, Texas, on 4. December 9, 2010. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on August 2, 2011.
- Respondent's nursing employment history includes: 5.

09/11 - 11/11

Unknown

ecutive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

12/11 - 03/13	LVN	Rosa's First Quality Care Arlington, Texas
04/12 - 03/13	LVN	Angels of Care Home Health Sherman, Texas
03/13 - 07/13	LVN	Children's Home Healthcare Dallas, Texas
06/13 - Present	LVN	Angels of Care Home Health Sherman, Texas

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Children's Home Healthcare, Dallas, Texas, and had been in that position for four (4) months.
- 7. On or about July 22, 2013, while employed with Children's Home Healthcare, Dallas, Texas, and on assignment at the home of Patient Medical Record Number 615179184, Respondent lacked fitness to practice vocational nursing in that she was observed sleeping while on duty. Subsequently, Respondent admitted to falling asleep. 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. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she "dozed off" on a chair while her client was awake and playing with his brother. Respondent states the patient took pictures of her sleeping, but she deleted them. Respondent is deeply sorry for what she did and states she has learned from her mistake and has worked to be a better nurse.
- 9. Formal Charges were filed on July 8, 2015.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 10, 2015.
- On or about September 15, 2015, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved class in Jurisprudence and Ethics, which would have been a requirement of this Order.
- 12. On or about October 6, 2015, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved class in Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, which would have been a requirement of this Order.

13. On or about October 8, 2015, Respondent submitted an Employee Evaluation form, dated June 19, 2015, from Angels of Care, Sherman, Texas, wherein it is indicated she received "Exceptional" in all but one category where she received "Above Average."

# **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)(B) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4)&(5).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, heretofore issued to MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 301.463(d), Texas Occupations Code, this Agreed Order is a settlement agreement under Rule 408, Texas Rules of Bvidence, in civil or criminal litigation.

# TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL receive

the sanction of WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS 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. EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT must work as a nurse, providing direct patient care in a licensed healthcare setting, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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.

- Indirect Supervision: With the exception of RESPONDENT's current C. position as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Angels of Care, Sherman, Texas, 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 nremises. 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.
- D. 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

# IV. 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 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 walve 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 28 day of January	,20 <u>16</u> .
MAN	
MAUREEN AWNO WASONGA, Re	spondent

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WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 28th day of January, 2016, by MAUREEN AWINO WASONGA, Vocational Nurse License Number 301840, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of March, 2016.

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Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board