



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 315658 §
issued to SARAH DENISE PATTERSON § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SARAH DENISE PATTERSON, Vocational Nurse License Number 315658, 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 July 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 Victoria College, Victoria, Texas, on August 2, 2013. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 5, 2013.
5. Respondent's vocational nursing employment history includes:

09/13 - 11/13 Unknown

Respondent's vocational nursing employment history continued:

12/13 - 05/15	LVN	Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital Victoria, Texas
Present	LVN Charge	Victoria Rehabilitation Victoria, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital, Victoria, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) months.
7. On or about April 21, 2015, through April 26, 2015, while employed with Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital of Victoria, Victoria, Texas, Respondent failed to administer, or document the administration of, scheduled medications, feedings, and saline flushes to Patient Numbers 5400751, 5400743, 5400725, 5400723, 5400754, and 5400747, as ordered by the physician. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record future providers would rely on, and it may have injured the patients in that failing to administer medications and treatments, as ordered, which could result in non-efficacious treatment.
8. On or about April 24, 2015, and April 25, 2015, while employed with Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital of Victoria, Victoria, Texas, Respondent failed to perform, or failed to document performing, blood sugar checks for Patient Numbers 5400731 and 5400751, as ordered by the physician. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record future providers would rely on, and it may have unnecessarily exposed the patients to risk of harm from undetected critical glucose levels.
9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states that the med room had a dispensing system that required sign in with a fingerprint and then the screen was "tapped" for medicines to be pulled and did not consistently record the dispensing of medicine and the same person who pulled a medication was not always the person who administered it. Respondent further states that patient 540051 was not even admitted until 4/23 and another nurse is documented as administering medications to that patient in addition to Respondent. Respondent also states that with regard to the blood sugar checks, accuchecks were done by the CNAs who would report the results and the nurse would administer insulin based on the sliding scale. The actual blood sugar results are on a separate form which was not provided by the facility to the BON. Moreover, there are no records for patient 5400741.
10. Formal Charges were filed on November 19, 2015.
11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on November 20, 2015.

12. Respondent provided the Board with a recent favorable performance evaluation from her current employer.

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),(B)&(C) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(B)&(4).
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 315658, heretofore issued to SARAH DENISE PATTERSON.
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 **REMEDIAL EDUCATION** 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. UNDERSTANDING BOARD ORDERS

Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT must successfully complete the Board's online course, "Understanding Board Orders," which can be accessed on the Board's website from the "Discipline & Complaints" drop-down menu or directly at: <http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp>. Upon successful completion, RESPONDENT must submit the course verification at the conclusion of the course, which automatically transmits the verification to the Board.

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.

- B. **A Board-approved course in medication administration** 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: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the six (6) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. 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.

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.*

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.

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 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.

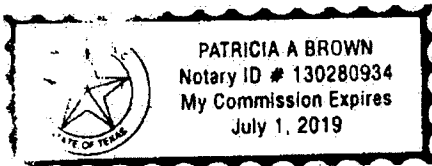
Signed this 7 day of July, 2017.
Sarah Denise Patterson
SARAH DENISE PATTERSON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of July, 2017.

SEAL

Patricia A. Brown

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS



Approved as to form and substance.

Elizabeth L. Higginbotham, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

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 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, 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 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. 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 _____ day of _____, 20____.

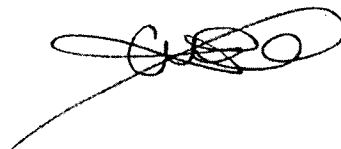
SARAH PATTERSON LVN RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of _____

Approved as to form this 7th day of July 2017



Elizabeth L. Higginbotham RN,J.D.

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 7th day of July, 20 17, by SARAH DENISE PATTERSON, Vocational Nurse License Number 315658, and said Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of July, 20 17.



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