



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.  
*Patricia A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of §  
Registered Nurse License Number 802228 §  
issued to KARA JO WILLIAMS §

ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of KARA JO WILLIAMS, Registered Nurse License Number 802228, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from Tarrant Co Junior College, Fort Worth, Texas on May 13, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 14, 2011.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:
 

06/11-08/12	Unknown	
09/12-08/14	Registered Nurse	Dallas VA Hospital Dallas, Texas
09/14-01/15	Registered Nurse	Medical Center Arlington Arlington, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center Arlington, Arlington, Texas, and had been in that position for four (4) months.
7. On or about January 1, 2015, through January 2, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent tampered with vials of Dilaudid and Morphine in that she withdrew them from the Medication Dispensing System (Pyxis), emptied the vials, filled the vials with saline and returned them to the Pyxis, utilizing the "cancel remove" option. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive the pharmacy and may have resulted in the patients suffering pain unnecessarily, which could have prolonged their recovery period.
8. On or about January 1, 2015, through January 2, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent misappropriated twenty-two (22) vials of Dilaudid and eight (8) vials of Morphine for personal use in that she admitted to her employer to taking the Dilaudid and Morphine. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients, thereof, of the cost of the medications.
9. On or about January 2, 2015, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center Arlington, Arlington, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Dilaudid and Morphine in that she produced a specimen for a for cause drug screen which resulted positive for Dilaudid and Morphine. Additionally, Respondent admitted to her employer to injecting herself with the Dilaudid and Morphine while on duty. The use of Dilaudid and Morphine by a Registered 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.
10. In response to Finding of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Nine (9), Respondent states she realized she was not in a good place and was suffering. Respondent states she is currently in recovery and working in a nursing role that does include passing narcotics after taking eighteen (18) months off from nursing.
11. Formal Charges were filed on July 7, 2016.
12. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on July 11, 2016.
13. On August 2, 2017, the Board received a statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas.
14. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.

15. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to imtemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.

### 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) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9),(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 802228, heretofore issued to KARA JO WILLIAMS, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose conditions for reinstatement of licensure.
7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

### TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of Registered Nurse License Number 802228, heretofore issued to KARA JO WILLIAMS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.

2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until:
  - A. At least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and,
  - B. RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Effective this 2nd day of August, 2017.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:



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