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In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 185789

§

issued to TAMMY EILEEN HILL

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of TAMMY EILEEN HILL, Vocational Nurse License Number 185789, 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 May 29, 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 Nursing from Central Texas College-Brady, Brady, Texas, on August 10, 2002. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 4, 2002.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

11/2002 - 01/2003 Unknown

xecutive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

02/2003 - 11/2013 Staff Nurse San Angelo Community Medical Center

San Angelo, Texas

12/2013 - 12/2016 Staff Nurse San Angelo State Supportive Living Center

Carlsbad, Texas

01/2017 - Present Unknown

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse with San Angelo State Supportive Living Center, Carlsbad, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years and ten (10) months.

- 7. On or about October 24, 2016, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with San Angelo State Supported Living Center, Carlsbad, Texas, Respondent had a verbal altercation with Patient JM in which she verbally abused him by saying "I'm gonna beat your fucking ass," and subsequently flipped him off with her middle finger. Respondent's conduct was likely to cause emotional, and/or psychological harm to the patient and could have interfered or disrupted this patient's treatment.
- 8. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states patient JM, approached her, at work, to discuss a private matter and then threatened her. Respondent admits she replied by stating "You better make that first hit count because if I get up I [am] going to beat you[r] fucking ass." Respondent states she then walked away and heard patient JM say something, at which time she turned around and flipped him off.

#### **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)(C)&(6)(F).
- 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 185789, heretofore issued to TAMMY EILEEN HILL.
- 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 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. 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: <a href="http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp">http://www.bon.texas.gov/UnderstandingBoardOrders/index.asp</a>. 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. <u>A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics</u> 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. The course "Detecting and Preventing Abuse and Neglect ...," a 5.0 contact hour workshop presented in various locations by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.
- C. The course <u>"Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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 <u>not</u> being offered by a pre-approved 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 two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) 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. 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_	l day of	August 2017
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TAMMY EI	LEEN HILL,	Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_August\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_17\_.

MELISSA VILLESCAS
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
ID # 12674274-7
My Comm. Expires 12-04-2020

Notary Public in and for the State of <u>lexas</u>

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 1st day of August, 2017, by TAMMY EILEEN HILL, Vocational Nurse License Number 185789, and said Order is final.

Effective this 4th day of August, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board