



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

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In the Matter of § AGREED  
Registered Nurse License Number 602323 §  
& Vocational Nurse License Number 130501 §  
issued to ROBERT BRUCE WATTS § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ROBERT BRUCE WATTS, Registered Nurse License Number 602323, and Vocational Nurse License Number 130501, 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)(8) and 301.453, Texas Occupations Code. Respondent waived representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on March 28, 2014.

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 representation by counsel, informal proceedings, notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
3. Respondent is currently licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas. Respondent's license to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas is currently in inactive status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Nursing from Victoria College, Victoria, Texas, on August 23, 1990. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on November 28, 1990. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Excelsior College, Albany, New York, on January 1, 1993. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 15, 1994.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
6. On or about February 13, 2014, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing associated with his license to practice nursing in State of Texas, Respondent received a Final Decision and Order from the Wisconsin Board of Nursing, wherein his privilege to practice in the State of Wisconsin was voluntarily surrendered. A copy of the Order dated February 13, 2014, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
7. In response to Finding of Fact Number Six (6), Respondent acknowledges that he voluntarily surrendered his privilege to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin. Respondent is seeking to voluntarily enter TPAPN and give up his privilege to practice outside of Texas.
8. The Respondent's conduct described in the preceding Findings of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
9. The Board finds that there exists serious risks to public health and safety as a result of impaired nursing care due to intemperate use of controlled substances or chemical dependency.
10. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
11. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

#### 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 cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(8), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 602323, and Vocational Nurse License Number 130501, heretofore issued to ROBERT BRUCE WATTS, up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
4. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Registered Nurse License Number 602323, and Vocational Nurse License Number 130501, previously issued to ROBERT BRUCE WATTS, to practice nursing in Texas is/are hereby SUSPENDED and said suspension is ENFORCED until Respondent complies with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2):

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL apply to and be accepted into the TPAPN and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) payable to TPAPN.

(2) Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of compliance with Stipulation Numbers One (1) and Two (2), the SUSPENSION will be stayed, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the TPAPN:

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas current.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

RESPONDENT SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and RESPONDENT'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.

RESPONDENT SHALL 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.

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.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including EMERGENCY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of Respondent's license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that 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.

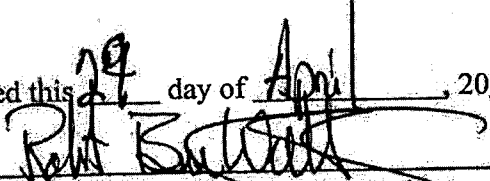
IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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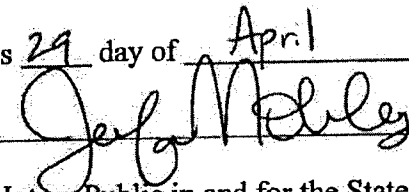
RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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. I acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Stipulation Numbers One (1) through Four (4) of this Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, 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 29 day of April, 2014.  
  
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ROBERT BRUCE WATTS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29 day of April, 2014.



  
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Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Agreed Order that was signed on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, by ROBERT BRUCE WATTS, Registered Nurse License Number 602323, and Vocational Nurse License Number 130501, and said Order is final.

Effective this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2014.



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

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF  
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ROBERT B. WATTS, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

0003016

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 NUR 440

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Robert B. Watts, R.N.  
202 Maplewood Apt B  
Victoria, TX 77901

Wisconsin Board of Nursing  
P.O. Box 8366  
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Robert B. Watts, R.N., (dob February 10, 1959) is not licensed in the State of Wisconsin. Respondent is licensed as a professional nurse in the State of Texas, having license number 602323, first issued on March 15, 1994 and current through February 28, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 202 Maplewood Apt B, Victoria, Texas 77901.

2. Respondent was working as a nurse in the State of Wisconsin under the Nursing Licensure Compact.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was employed as a professional nurse at a hospital (Hospital), located in Weston, Wisconsin.

4. On or about July 18, 2013, the director of nursing (DON) became aware that Respondent was asking fellow nurses to waste narcotics more frequently than any other nurse.

5. When confronted, Respondent turned over his badge and phone and left the Hospital.

6. Respondent returned to Texas and has no intentions of returning to Wisconsin.

7. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Board of Nursing has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Robert B. Watts, R.N., was impaired as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.03(2) by the use of alcohol or any drug to an extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to safely or reliably practice.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Robert B. Watts, R.N., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § N 7.04(2) by obtaining a drug other than in the course of legitimate practice or as otherwise prohibited by law.

6. As a result of the above conduct, Robert B. Watts, R.N., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 441.07(1)(b), (c) and (d).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. The voluntary SURRENDER of Robert B. Watts, R.N., (Texas license no. 602323) privilege to practice nursing in the State of Wisconsin or under another state license pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby accepted.

3. In the event that Respondent petitions the Board of Nursing for re-licensure as a nurse in the future, the Board may enter an order denying such application without further notice or hearing. Whether to grant a license and whether to impose any limitations or restrictions on any license granted shall be in the discretion of the Board.



4. Within 120 days from the date of this Order, Robert B. Watts, R.N., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$350.00.

5. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
[DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING

by:

Julia Nelson, RN  
A Member of the Board

Date

2/13/14

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

ROBERT B. WATTS, R.N.,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

0003016

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 NUR 440

Respondent Robert B. Watts, R.N., and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

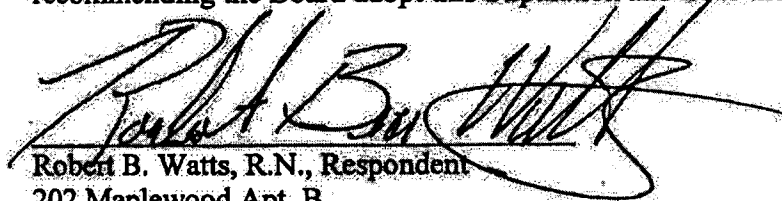
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.


7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.



Robert B. Watts, R.N., Respondent  
202 Maplewood Apt. B  
Victoria, TX 77901  
License no. Texas 602323

Jan 13th, 2014  
Date



Amanda Florek, Attorney  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison WI 53707-7190

1/23/14  
Date