



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
Registered Nurse License Number 246477 §
issued to IRENE M. DIFILIPPO § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, Registered Nurse License Number 246477, 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 10, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from West Texas State University, Canyon, Texas, on August 1, 1977. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 28, 1979.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

3/1979-8/1980	Unknown	
9/1980 - 12/1989	Registered Nurse	University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

1/1990 - 8/1991	Registered Nurse	West Texas Hospital Lubbock, Texas
9/1991 - 4/2000	Unknown	
5/2000 - 8/2003	Registered Nurse	Lewisville Medical Center Lewisville, Texas
3/2002 - 5/2007	Registered Nurse	RHD Hospital Dallas, Texas
3/2004 - 9/2004	Registered Nurse	Montford Unit - TDCJ Lubbock, Texas
10/2004 - 2/2017	Registered Nurse	Grace Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
3/2017 - Present	Registered Nurse	Prestigious Nursing Lubbock, Texas

6. On or about February 11, 2003, Respondent was issued the sanction of Reprimand with Stipulations through an Agreed Order by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. A copy of the Agreed Order, including the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order dated February 11, 2003, is attached and incorporated by reference as part of this Order.
7. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Grace Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, and had been in that position for twelve (12) years.
8. On or about October 27, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Grace Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent removed a Foley catheter from Patient Number 56632, without a physician's order. Subsequently, the patient required a straight catheterization for retained urine. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from ineffective treatment.
9. On or about December 29, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Grace Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent removed a Foley catheter from Patient Number 1198018, without a physician's order. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient from ineffective treatment.

10. On or about February 13, 2017, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Grace Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, Respondent failed to obtain a blood sample for a repeat Phosphorous Level for Patient Number 57020, as ordered during parenteral nutrition intravenous infusion. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to risk of harm from delay of diagnosis and treatment using lab result data.
11. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states she mistakenly removed the Foley catheter from Patient Number 56632 as she was removing several other Foley catheters, and got busy and forgot to notify the physician to inform that she mistakenly removed the patient's catheter. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent states she removed the catheter because the surgeon had an understood verbal order to remove catheters the next morning at 0600, and did not see the surgeon's computer-generated orders stated otherwise, and the catheter was to be removed 24-48 hours post-op. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Ten(10), Respondent states she did not see the physician's order in the computer for the Phosphorous level, and attempted to obtain the blood sample through the patient's central line, but was unsuccessful. Respondent states the lab was notified to obtain a draw for the specimen.
12. On March 14, 2017, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved course in Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, which would have been a requirement of this Order.
13. On June 27, 2017, Respondent submitted a letter to the Board from Prestigious Nursing, Lubbock, Texas. Respondent's employer states that she is dependable, professional, and a trustworthy employee, who has received no complaints from any facility where she has been staffed.

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)&(1)(M) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(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 Registered Nurse License Number 246477, heretofore issued to IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
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** 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 physical assessment** 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 physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. 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.

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. 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, for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month for eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) quarterly periods of employment as a nurse have elapsed. 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. **Direct Supervision:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to

provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on 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. While Respondent is employed as a Registered Nurse with Prestigious Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, this stipulation shall not apply. Should Respondent's employment as a Registered Nurse with Prestigious Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, cease or change, this stipulation shall apply.

- D. Indirect Supervision:** For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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. While Respondent is employed as a Registered Nurse with Prestigious Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, this stipulation shall not apply. Should Respondent's employment as a Registered Nurse with Prestigious Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, cease or change, this stipulation shall apply.
- E. 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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

VI. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

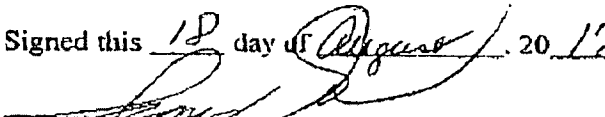
Upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, all encumbrances will be removed from RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas and RESPONDENT may

be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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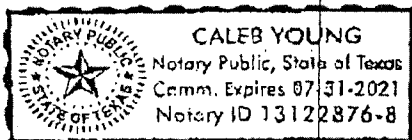
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary 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 18 day of August, 2017.


 IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, Respondent

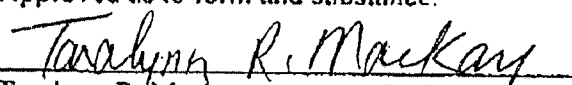
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of August, 2017.

SEAL





 Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Approved as to form and substance.


 Taralynn R. Mackay, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 18th day of August, 2017.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 18th day of August, 2017, by IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, Registered Nurse License Number 246477, and said Order is final.

Effective this 26th day of October, 2017.



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



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 BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the Matter of License Number 246477 § AGREED
issued to IRENE M. DIFILIPPO § ORDER

An investigation by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas, hereinafter referred to as the Board, produced evidence indicating that IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, License Number 246477, may have violated Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code.

An informal conference was held on November 5, 2002, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Section 301.464 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent appeared in person. Respondent was represented by Bruce Bigelow, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director; E. Joy Sparks, Assistant General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director, Enforcement Division; and Virginia Ayars, BSN, RN, Investigator.

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.
2. Respondent waived 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.
4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from West Texas State University, Canyon, Texas, on August 1, 1977. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 28, 1979.

5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

Sept. 1977 - Nov. 1980	PCT/GN/RN Orthopedic Floor	West Texas Hospital Lubbock, Texas
Nov. 1980 - April 1981	Head Start Health Educator	Texas Tech University Head Start Lubbock, Texas
April 1981 - Nov. 1989	Med-Surg Staff RN SICU - MICU Float Pool	University Medical Center Lubbock, Texas
Nov. 1989 - Aug. 1991	ICU Staff RN PRN House Supervisor	West Texas Hospital Lubbock, Texas
Feb. 1990 - Dec. 1990	Relief Nursing Supervisor	South Park Hospital Lubbock, Texas
Aug. 1992 - Oct. 1992	ICU Staff RN	Action Services, Inc. Specialty Care, Inc. Multicare Healthcare Services Dallas, Texas
Oct. 1992 - March 1993	Nursing Supervisor	Trinity Medical Center Carrollton, Texas
April 1993 - Feb. 1998	Telemetry Staff RN	Denton Regional Medical Center Denton, Texas
Feb. 1998 - June 1998	ICU Staff RN	Presbyterian Hospital of Plano Plano, Texas
1997 - 1999	Agency Nurse Med-Surg, Telemetry, ICU	Angel Touch Nursing Services Lewisville, Texas
June 1999 - Aug. 2002	Skilled Nursing Unit Day Surgery, PACU	Medical Center of Lewisville Lewisville, Texas
June 1999 - Current	ICU, Telemetry, OB/GYN	RHD Hospital Trinity Medical Center Farmers Branch & Carrollton, Texas

6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit with the Medical Center of Lewisville, Lewisville, Texas, and had been in this position for three (3) years and five (5) months.
7. While employed at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Lewisville, Texas, on or about May 15, 2002, Respondent administered labetalol to Patient Medical Record Number 252328, without a physician's order. Respondent's failure to administer medications as ordered by the physician exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of experiencing hypotension, ventricular arrhythmias, and/or bronchospasm. Respondent also failed to document the administration of labetalol in the medical record of Patient Medical Record Number 252328. Respondent's behavior was likely to deceive other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.
8. While employed at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Lewisville, Texas, on or about May 15, 2002, Respondent administered hydroxyzine 50 mg intravenously to Patient Medical Record Number 252328, instead of hydralazine 5 mg intravenously, as ordered by the physician. Respondent's failure to administer medications as ordered by the physician exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of experiencing hypertension, sedation, trembling, and/or seizures.
9. While employed at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Lewisville, Texas, on or about May 15, 2002, Respondent failed to report the above medication error to the physician. Respondent also failed to complete an incident report regarding the medication error when Respondent discovered the mistake. Respondent's behavior was likely to deceive other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.
10. While employed at the Medical Center of Lewisville, Lewisville, Texas, on or about May 15, 2002, Respondent failed to assess and evaluate the status of Patient Medical Record Number 252328 and failed to institute appropriate nursing interventions which might be required to stabilize the patient's condition. Respondent reported to the physician that she had administered hydralazine, when in fact she had given hydroxyzine. As a result, the patient never had his blood pressure properly treated. Respondent's conduct was likely to deceive other caregivers who needed complete information on which to base their care.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Sections 301.451-301.455, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
2. Notice was served in accordance with law.

3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(2)(3)(4)&(21), and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(2)(3)(4)&(20).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against License Number 246477, heretofore issued to IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, including revocation of Respondent's professional license to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a REPRIMAND WITH STIPULATIONS, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Texas Occupations Code §§301.001 *et seq.*, the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 *et seq.* and this Order.

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

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that while Respondent's license is encumbered by this Order, Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the State of Texas and the Board of Nursing in the party state where Respondent wishes to work.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

(1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-size license issued to IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of ratification of this Order for appropriate notation.

(2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered Nurses. It shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure.

(3) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in medication administration. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered Nurses. The didactic portion of this course shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course shall contain a minimum twenty-four (24) hour clinical component which is to be provided by the same Registered Nurse who provides the didactic portion of this course. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. In order for the course to be approved, the course's content shall include: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the five (5) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. 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. RESPONDENT SHALL successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course to satisfy this stipulation. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the instructor to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course shall be taken in addition to any other courses stipulated in this Order, if any, and in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board has for relicensure.

(4) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing ethics. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. The course shall be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience shall include Registered Nurses. The course shall include content on the following: principles of nursing ethics; confidentiality; and professional boundaries. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure.

(5) RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00). RESPONDENT SHALL pay this fine within forty-five (45) days of entry of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Board of Nurse Examiners in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS, RESPONDENT WILL PROVIDE DIRECT PATIENT CARE AND PRACTICE IN A HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME, OR OTHER CLINICAL SETTING, UNDER THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS WORKING A MINIMUM OF SIXTY-FOUR (64) HOURS A MONTH FOR TWELVE (12) CONSECUTIVE MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT. PERIODS OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR OF EMPLOYMENT THAT DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF A REGISTERED NURSE (RN) LICENSE, OR WHERE DIRECT PATIENT CARE IS NOT PROVIDED, WILL NOT APPLY TO THIS STIPULATION PERIOD:

(6) RESPONDENT SHALL notify each present employer in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each present employer within five (5) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL notify all future employers in professional nursing of this Order of the Board and the stipulations on RESPONDENT's license. RESPONDENT SHALL present a complete copy of this Order and all Proposals for Decision issued by the Administrative Law Judge, if any, to each future employer prior to accepting an offer of employment.

(7) RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each present employer in professional nursing to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each future employer to submit the Notification of Employment form, which is provided to the Respondent by the Board, to the Board's office within five (5) days of employment as a professional nurse.

(8) RESPONDENT SHALL be supervised by a Registered Nurse who is on the premises. The supervising RN 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 RN 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.

(9) 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 professional nursing. These reports shall be completed by each Registered Nurse who supervises the RESPONDENT. These reports shall be submitted by the supervising Registered Nurse to the office of the Board at the end of each three (3) months for one (1) year of employment as a professional nurse.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license and multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas.

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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

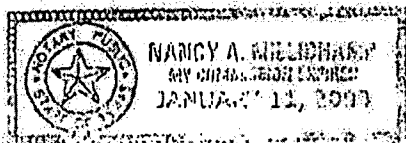
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid 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 to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 26 day of December, 2002
Irene M. Difilippo
IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26 day of December, 2002

SEAL

Nancy A. Phillips
Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS



Approved as to form and substance.

Bruce Bigelow
BRUCE BIGELOW, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 2nd day of Jan, 2003

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 26th day of December, 2002, by IRENE M. DIFILIPPO, License Number 246477, and said Order is final.

Effective this 11th day of February, 2003.



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