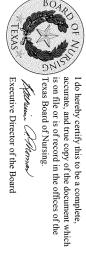
BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ AGREED Vocational Nurse License Number 301193 \$ issued to CYNTHIA ANN LEHRER, a/k/a, \$ CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS \$ ORDER



On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of CYNTHIA ANN LEHRER, a/k/a, CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, 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)(1)&(10), 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 November 1, 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 Howard College at San Angelo, San Angelo, Texas, on May 14, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 23, 2011.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

- 6. On September 13, 2016, Respondent was issued an Agreed Order by the Board which required her to apply to and be accepted into the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). Additionally, Respondent was to comply with all the requirements of the TPAPN contract throughout its terms. A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated September 13, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.
- 7. On or about May 24, 2017, Respondent became noncompliant with the Agreed Order issued to her by the Texas Board of Nursing on September 13, 2016. Noncompliance is the result of Respondent's failure to abstain from the consumption of alcohol (ethanol). Respondent produced a urine specimen for a random drug screen that resulted positive for Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG) and Ethyl Sulfate (EtS), which are metabolites of alchol (ethanol). Stipulation Number One (1)(D), of the Agreed Order, September 13, 2016, states:
 - 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; and

A copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order dated September 13, 2016, is attached and incorporated, by reference, as part of this Order.

- 8. 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.
- 9. Formal Charges were filed against Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas on September 7, 2017.
- 10. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on September 18, 2017.
- 11. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 12. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 13. 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 substance use disorder.
- 14. 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 to prove violation(s) of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(11(B), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, heretofore issued to CYNTHIA ANN LEHRER, 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.
- 6. 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.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. SANCTION AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, previously issued to CYNTHIA ANN LEHRER, to practice nursing in Texas is hereby **SUSPENDED** and said suspension is **ENFORCED** until Respondent:

- A. Applies to, is accepted into, and completes enrollment in the Texas Peer

 Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN), including payment of a nonrefundable participation fee in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars
 (\$350.00); and
- B. Waives confidentiality and <u>provides a copy of the fully executed TPAPN</u> participation agreement to the Board.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, upon verification of successful completion of the above requirements, the Suspension will be **STAYED**, and RESPONDENT will be placed on **PROBATION** for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the TPAPN **AND** until Respondent fulfills the additional requirements of this Order.

- C. 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.
- D. 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.
- E. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.
- F: This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- G. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- H. As a result of this Order, Respondent's license(s) will be designated "single state" and Respondent may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state.

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. SUPERCEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Order SHALL supercede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

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 suspension being stayed:

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.

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 preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

V. FURTHER COMPLAINTS

If, during the period of probation, an additional allegation, accusation, or petition is reported or filed against the Respondent's license(s), the probationary period shall not expire and shall automatically be extended until the allegation, accusation, or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

VI. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

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 TEMPORARY 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.

VII. 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, subject to meeting all existing eligibility requirements in Texas Occupations Code Chapter 304, Article III, 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 do 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 entry of this Order and all conditions of said 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.

Si	gned this c	iay of NOV	ember	(20 <u>1</u>].	
	LLAND	thea a	Lh	verd	<i>,</i>
		•	a/k/a,	CYNTHIA	AMN
W	ILLIAMS, Respo	ondent			
Sworn to and subscribed before me this	day of		, 20	·	
SEAL					_
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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 November, 20_17, by CYNTHIA ANN LEHRER, a/k/a, CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, and said Order is final.

Effective this 2nd day of November, 2017.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Katheine Conoman

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



of § AGREED

In the Matter of
Vocational Nurse License Number 301193
§ ORDER
issued to CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Bound, considered the matter of CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, 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)(9)&(10), 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 August 4, 2016.

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 in Nursing from Howard College, San Angelo, Texas, on May 14, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 23, 2011.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.

I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document whit is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.

Executive Director of the Board

- 6. On or about February 10, 2015, Respondent entered a plea of No Contest and was convicted of the THEFT OF PROP >=\$500<\$1500, a Class A misdemeanor offense, committed on August 9, 2014, in the County Court at Law of Tom Green County Texas, under Cause No.14-02144L2. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Tom Green County Jail for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days and ordered to pay court costs.
- 7. On or about June 30, 2016, Respondent submitted a Timely License Renewal Form Licensed Vocational Nurse to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she answered "Yes" to the question:

"Have you, within the past 24 months or since your last renewal, for any criminal offense, including those pending appeal:

- A. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- B. been convicted of a felony?
- C. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- D. received deferred adjudication?
- E. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
- F. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
- G. been granted pre-trial diversion?
- H. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
- I. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
- J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?"

Respondent disclosed that on or about February 10, 2015, Respondent entered a plea of No Contest and was convicted of the THEFT OF PROP>=\$500<\$1500, a Class A misdemeanor offense, committed on August 9, 2014, in the County Court at Law of Tom Green County Texas, under Cause No.14-02144L2. As a result of the conviction, Respondent was sentenced to confinement in the Tom Green County Jail for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days and ordered to pay court costs.

8. On or about June 30, 2016, Respondent submitted a Timely License Renewal Form Licensed Vocational Nurse to the Texas Board of Nursing in which she answered "Yes" to the question:

"In the past 5 years, have you been addicted to or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug? (You may answer "no" if you have completed and/or are in compliance with TPAPN."

Respondent disclosed that on or about August 20, 2015, Respondent voluntary admitted herself into a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center, in Odessa, Texas.

- 9. In response to Findings of Fact Six (6) through Eight (8), Respondent states, she was arrested at Wal-Mart for shoplifting in 2014, while under the influence of a drug. She was sentenced to confinement in county Jail for 120 days. She completed her sentence in April of 2015 and she has not been involved in any other criminal activity except she continued to use drugs. On August 20, 2015, she voluntarily admitted herself into a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center in Odessa, Texas. She did not practice nursing while she was involved with using drugs. She completed the program on September 21, 2015, and decided to go into a faith based program called Genesis Center in Midland, Texas, for about 60 days.
- 10. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact was reportable under the provisions of Sections 301.401-301.419, Texas Occupations Code.
- 11. Respondent's conduct as described in the preceding Finding(s) of Fact resulted from or was significantly influenced by Respondent's substance use disorder.
- 12. 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 substance use disorder.
- 13. 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 to prove violation(s) of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(5)&(13).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, heretofore issued to CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, 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.
- 6. 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.

TERMS OF ORDER

I. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN):

- A. Within forty-five (45) days following the date of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL apply to TPAPN;
- B. Within ninety (90) days following the date of entry of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee payable to TPAPN in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00);
- C. 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;
- D. 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; and
- E. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.

II. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND APPLICABILITY

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.

- 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. As a result of this Order, Respondent's license will be designated "single state" and 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.

III. 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 entry of this Order:

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.

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 preapproved provider. Information about Board-approved courses and Verification of Course Completion forms are available from the Board at www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

IV. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

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 TEMPORARY 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.

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.

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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 do 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 entry of this Order and all conditions of said 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 S day of September 10 14

CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of

RXOS

lotary Public

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 8th_day.of_September_, 20 16, by CYNTHIA ANN WILLIAMS, Vocational Nurse License Number 301193, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of September, 2016.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board