BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED

Vocational Nurse License Number 310145 §

issued to ALEXIS WENDIE SCOTT § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALEXIS WENDIE SCOTT, Vocational Nurse License Number 310145, 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 December 18, 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 Angelina College at Lufkin, Lufkin, Texas, on August 11, 2012. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 27, 2012.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2012 - 2/2013 Unknown

3/2013 - 8/2015 Staff Nurse

Rusk State Hospital Rusk, Texas

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

8/2015 - 11/2015	Staff Nurse	Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital Nacogdoches, Texas
12/2015 - 2/2016	Staff Nurse	Lufkin State Supported Living Center Lufkin, Texas
3/2016 - 6/2017	Private Duty Nurse	Innovations Health Services Tyler, Texas
7/2017	Private Duty Nurse	Maxim Healthcare Tyler, Texas
8/2017 - Present	Private Duty Nurse	Superhero Kids Home Health Tyler, Texas

- 6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Private Duty Nurse with Innovations Health Services, Tyler, Texas, and had been in that position for nine (9) months.
- On or about December 31, 2016, through January 23, 2017, while employed as a Private Duty Nurse with Innovations Health Services, Tyler, Texas, Respondent failed to maintain professional boundaries, and patient privacy, when she brought her husband to work during her twelve (12) hour shifts caring for Patient CS who is five (5) years old, and instructed her husband, who was not authorized to care for the aforementioned patient, to lift and turn the patient while Respondent had a neck injury. In addition, on May 17, 2017, Respondent also inappropriately and without agency approval allowed him to come into the patient's home for over three (3) hours while waiting for her shift to be completed. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient unnecessarily to a risk of harm from ineffective treatment by an unauthorized untrained person in the house, invasion of privacy, and exposure of confidential medical information.
- 8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that when she was hired, she had never worked in Home Health care, wasn't provided any training regarding crossing professional boundaries, and was unaware of the rules so she was uncertain as to what the professional boundaries were. Respondent explains that on Christmas night she had to leave her shift early due to excruciating neck pain, contacted her employer to let them know that she could work, but couldn't lift the patient, but could bring her husband who could lift him for her. Respondent states that the family was contacted, and the mother agreed that it was okay, so her husband came to work with her where he would lift and turn the patient, and she would take care of the patient's medical treatments and medications. Respondent explains that after several weeks of this arrangement, she got steroid injections and physical therapy, and was able to do her job with no further assistance. Respondent relates that on May 17, 2017, the patient's family had approved for her husband

to pick her up after her shift which ended at 9 am, and he arrived at 5:30 am. Respondent explains that she let him in the house, and while sitting on the couch he fell asleep.

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)(E),(1)(J),(1)(M)&(2)(A) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(D)&(4).
- 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 310145, heretofore issued to ALEXIS WENDIE SCOTT.
- 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 **WARNING WITH STIPULATIONS 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. 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. 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. The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills," a 3.6 contact hour online program provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Learning Extension.
- C. The course "Professional Boundaries in Nursing," a 3.0 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 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. 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. 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 four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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. Indirect Supervision: 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.
- D. 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] of employment as a nurse.

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. 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.

ALEXIS WENDIE SCOTT, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of February, 2018.

SEAL

ABRIL GONZALEZ

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 12th day of February, 2018, by ALEXIS WENDIE SCOTT, Vocational Nurse License Number 310145, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of March, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board