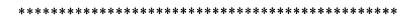
BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



xecutive Director of the Board

In the Matter of	§	AGREED
Registered Nurse License Number 856729	§	•
& Vocational Nurse License Number 314359	§	
issued to STEPHANIE MARIE AARON	§	ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of STEPHANIE MARIE AARON, Registered Nurse License Number 856729 and Vocational Nurse License Number 314359, 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 March 27, 2018.

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. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Paris Junior College, Paris, Texas on May 10, 2013, and received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Paris Junior College, Paris, Texas on May 9, 2014. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on June 18, 2013, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 12, 2014.

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5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/2013 - 9/2015

LVN/RN

Hunt Regional Medical Center

Greenville, TX

9/2015 - 8/2016

Registered Nurse

Medical Center of McKinney

McKinney, TX

8/2016 - Present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center of McKinney, McKinney, Texas, and had been in that position for ten (10) months.
- 7. On or about July 1, 2016 and July 2, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center of McKinney, McKinney, Texas, and assigned to the Intensive Care Unit, Respondent withdrew eight (8) syringes of Dilaudid 1MG from the medication dispensing system for Patient Q00047621112, but failed to document and/or completely and accurately document the administration of the medications in the Medication Administration Record (MAR) and/or nurses' notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient, in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patient, which could result in an overdose. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 8. On or about July 1, 2016 and July 2, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center of McKinney, McKinney, Texas, and assigned to the Intensive Care Unit, Respondent withdrew eight (8) syringes of Dilaudid 1MG from the medication dispensing system for Patient Q00047621112, but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedures for wastage of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct left medications unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed the pharmacy in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 9. On or about July 1, 2016 and July 2, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Medical Center of McKinney, McKinney, Texas, and assigned to the Intensive Care Unit, Respondent misappropriated eight (8) syringes of Dilaudid 1mg from Patient Q00047621112, belonging to the facility and patient thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Formal Charges were filed on June 5, 2017.

12. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on June 6, 2017.

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)(C)&(1)(D) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(C),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
- 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 856729 and Vocational Nurse License Number 314359, heretofore issued to STEPHANIE MARIE AARON, 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 LIMITED LICENSE WITH STIPULATIONS in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. While under the terms of this Order, <u>RESPONDENT SHALL NOT</u> <u>provide direct patient care</u>. For the purposes of this Order, direct patient care involves a personal relationship between the nurse and the client, and includes, but is not limited to: teaching, counseling, assessing the client's needs and strengths, and providing skilled nursing care.
- B. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to Respondent to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. This Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

D. 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. 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. RESTORATION OF PATIENT CARE PRIVILEGE AND/OR

UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

SHOULD RESPONDENT desire to provide direct patient care, RESPONDENT SHALL petition the Board for such approval, at which time, the RESPONDENT MUST satisfy all then existing requirements for re-issuance of the privilege to provide direct patient care. Further, the Board may impose reasonable conditions that must be satisfied by the RESPONDENT before re-issuance of an unencumbered license, which, at a minimum, shall include the remedial education courses, work restrictions, supervised practice, and/or employer reporting which would have been requirements of this Order had the license(s) not been placed in limited status.

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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 28thday of March, 2018.
	Hophin Aren
	STEPHANIE MARIE AARON, Respondent
Sworn to and subscribed before	e me this day of, 20
SEAL	
	Notary Public in and for the State of

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>28th</u> day of <u>March</u>, 20<u>18</u>, by STEPHANIE MARIE AARON, Registered Nurse License Number 856729 and Vocational Nurse License Number 314359, and said Order is final.

Effective this 8th day of May, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board