BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$
Registered Nurse License Number 710563 \$
issued to LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY \$



ORDER OF THE BOARD

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY, Registered Nurse License Number 710563, hereinafter referred to as Respondent.

This action was taken in accordance with Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order.

The Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in delinquent status.
- 2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order.
- 3. Respondent received an Associate Dgree from Trinity Valley Community College, Kaufman, Texas, on May 10, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 2004.
- 4. Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown.
- On or about June 24, 2015, Respondent was issued the sanction of a Confidential Agreed Order for Peer Assistance Program by the Board. Respondent failed to complete the terms of this order. A copy of the Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated June 24, 2015, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.

6. On or about April 6, 2018, Respondent was notified of the following allegation:

On or about February 15, 2018, Respondent became non-compliant with the Agreed Order issued to her on June 24, 2015. Non-compliance is the result of Respondent submitting a specimen for a drug screen which produced a positive result for Codeine and Hydrocodone. Additionally, Respondent failed to complete and return required documents to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN). Section I, Stipulation D states:

RESPONDENT SHALL comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement during its terms...

- 7. On April 23, 2018, the Board received a statement from Respondent voluntarily surrendering the right to practice nursing in Texas. A copy of Respondent's statement, dated April 18, 2018, is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Order.
- 8. The Board policy implementing Rule 213.29 in effect on the date of this Agreed Order provides discretion by the Executive Director for consideration of conditional reinstatement after proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of abstinence from alcohol and drugs followed by licensure limitations/stipulations and/or peer assistance program participation.
- 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.

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(3),(4),(9)&(11)(B).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(1)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 710563, heretofore issued to LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY, including revocation of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 5. Under Section 301.453(c), Texas Occupations Code, the Board has the authority to accept the voluntary surrender of a license.
- 6. Under Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, as amended, the Board may impose

conditions for reinstatement of licensure.

7. Any subsequent reinstatement of this license will be controlled by Section 301.453(d), Texas Occupations Code, and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26-.29, and any amendments thereof in effect at the time of the reinstatement.

TERMS OF ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of Registered Nurse License Number 710563, heretofore issued to LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, is accepted by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing. In connection with this acceptance, the Board imposes the following conditions:

- 1. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice professional/registered nursing, use the title "registered nurse" or the abbreviation "RN" or wear any insignia identifying herself as a registered nurse or use any designation which, directly or indirectly, would lead any person to believe that RESPONDENT is a registered nurse during the period in which the license is surrendered.
- 2. RESPONDENT SHALL NOT petition for reinstatement of licensure until:
 - A. At least one (1) year has elapsed from the date of this Order; and,
 - B. RESPONDENT has obtained objective, verifiable proof of twelve (12) consecutive months of sobriety immediately preceding the petition.
- 3. Upon petitioning for reinstatement, RESPONDENT SHALL satisfy all then existing requirements for relicensure.

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.

Effective this 23rd day of April, 2018.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

By:

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

Karin a. Moman

Texas Board of Nurse examiners,

I Leslie Deanne Shotnacy wish to voluntary surrender my registered nursing license 710563 at this time. I was to be compliant with the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses; however due to financial issues I am unable to meet the requirements of the program at this time. I hope that at some point I can be reinstated and work again as a nurse. This has been a difficult and heartbreaking decision for me but I feel this is the right thing to do at this time until I am financially able to participate in the peer assistance program.

Sincerely,

Leslie Deanne Shortnacy

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of
Registered Nurse License Number 710563
issued to LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY

CONFIDENTIAL

AGREED ORDER FOR

§ § PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY, Registered Nurse License Number 710563, 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)&(12), 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 April 20, 2015.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Prior to the institution of Agency proceedings, notice of the matters specified below in these 1. 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).
- Respondent waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Order. 2.
- Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current 3. status.
- Respondent received an Associate Degree from Trinity Valley Community College, 4. Kaufman, Texas, on May 10, 2004. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 12, 2004.
- Respondent's nursing employment history is unknown. 5.
- On or about January 2, 2014, through September 9, 2014, while licensed as a Registered 6. Nurse in the State of Texas, Respondent's conduct may have indicated a current lack of fitness to practice nursing with responsible skill and safety in that she engaged in drug seeking behavior by receiving approximately one thousand three hundred and thirty-three

- (1333) tablets of Hydrocodone and ninety (90) tablets of Zolpidem, prescribed by approximately twenty-five (25) different providers, and submitted to approximately eight (8) different pharmacies in multiple cities.
- 7. Formal Charges were filed on February 3, 2015
- 8. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on February 4, 2015.
- 9. 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.
- 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. 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.
- 12. 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(4)&(5).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 710563, heretofore issued to LESLIE DEANNE SHORTNACY, 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.
- 5. 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 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 five hundred dollars (\$500.00);
- 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

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. 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. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS

While RESPONDENT remains in compliance with the terms of this Order, this Order shall remain confidential in accordance with the authority outlined in Section 301.466(d), Texas Occupations Code. However, should Respondent fail to successfully complete the terms of this Order or should Respondent commit a subsequent violation of the Nursing Practice Act or Board Rules, this Order shall be treated as prior disciplinary action and will become public information.

V. 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.

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 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

Signed/this	8 d	ay of _	Tun	E.	20.15.
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ILESLIE DE	EANNE	SHOR	INACY	, Resp	ondent_
					, J

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8 day of 500, 2015.

SEAL

my noncompliance.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

VICKI MEZA My Commission Expires September 16, 2018

Approved as to form and substance.

Hiba Kazim, Attorney for Respondent Jose Almara?

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the
Texas Board of Nursing, does hereby accept and enter the Confidential Agreed Order for Peer
Assistance Program that was signed on the 8th day of June , 20 15, by LESLIE
DEANNE SHORTNACY, Registered Nurse License Number 710563, and said Order is final.

Effective this 24th day of June , 20 15.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board