BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of

AGREED

xecutive Director of the Board

Registered Nurse License Number 846770

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issued to DRAKE ALAN DIETRICH

ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DRAKE ALAN DIETRICH, Registered Nurse License Number 846770, 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 October 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associates Degree from St. Johns School of Nursing, Springfield, Missouri on May 1, 2010. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on November 1, 2013.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

07/2013 - 10/2016

RN

Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Cleburne, Texas

846770:277

Respondent's nursing employment history continued

10/2016 - present

Unknown

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne, Texas, and had been in that position for three (3) years and three (3) months.
- 7. On or about October 8, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne, Texas, Respondent showed signs of drug seeking behavior in that he was seen reaching into a sharps container with a pair of hemostats. Respondent admits he took home a partially used vial of Decadron, already opened and given to a patient, to take home and administer to his son. He admits this was wrong.
- 8. On or about October 9, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne, Texas, Respondent showed signs of drug seeking behavior in that he was seen counting a patient's medication and placing some of the patient's pills into his front scrub pocket. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications.
- 9. On or about October 9, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital, Cleburne, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Fentanyl in that he produced a specimen for a for cause drug screen that resulted positive for Fentanyl. The use of Fentanyl by a Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing a patient in potential danger.
- 10. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Nine (9), Respondent disagrees with the allegations in paragraph 8 above, specifically that he took any patient pills, stating that the witness who reported this was not in the room where it is reported to have occurred and those present in the room did not report this happened. Respondent states he was merely counting the patient's benzodiazepine and opiate medications, as the patient presented with decrease LOC and he wanted to ensure the patient was not over-medicating. Respondent disagrees with the allegations in paragraph 9 above, specifically that he took Fentanyl. He questions the accuracy of the drug screen given the positive test for Fentanyl and the failure of the test to find Tramadol, which he reported at the time to the hospital and was taking by proper prescription due to a kidney stone. He denies these allegations and also notes that the prescription he was taking, Tramadol, did not show up on the screen while Fentanyl, a medication he denies he was taking, did show.

11. On or about September 8, 2017, Respondent underwent a Chemical Dependency Evaluation performed by Jim Womack, PhD. Dr. Womack states Respondent's history and test results are not indicative of a substance use problem. However, Dr. Womack states it would seem prudent to have Respondent undergo a year of random drug testing to establish confidence he is not taking non-prescribed medications.

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. $CODE\S217.12(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(10)(A),(10)(D)\&(11)(B)$.
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 846770, heretofore issued to DRAKE ALAN DIETRICH.
- 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 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.

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 <u>not</u> 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. 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.

VI. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when RESPONDENT obtains

employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.

- For the first six (6) month period [1st & 2nd quarters] RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
- For the remainder of the probation period, random screens shall be performed at least once per month.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

<u>Specimens shall be screened</u> for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

Amphetamine MDA Alpha-o-alprazolam Desmethyldiazepam Oxazepam Butabarbital Phenobarbital Hydrocodone Morphine Oxymorphone Cocaine Heroin Meperidine	Methamphetamine Alprazolam Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam Lorazepam Temazepam Butalbital Secobarbital Hydromorphone Opiates Propoxyphene Phencyclidine Fentanyl Carisoprodol	MDMA Diazepam Clonazepam Midazolam Amobarbital Pentobarbital Codeine Methadone Oxycodone Cannabinoids Ethanol Tramadol Butorphanol
	•	
Nalbuphine	Carisoprodol	Butorphanol
Natouplinie	Ketamine	Propofol

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, RESPONDENT SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not RESPONDENT has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, a Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to

produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to 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. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

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 OBRINICAUTÔN

I understand that I have the right to legal counseleption to signing this Agreed Order. Their admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By mysignature 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. Funders and that when this Order becomes final and the terms of this Order become effective, a copy will be mailed to me if 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 litense(s) to practice starting in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 2 2 day of Turker 2016.

DRAKE ALAN DIETRICH, Respondent

SEAL

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

GUADALUPE RODRIGUEZ

A Notary Public, State of Texes

A Comm. Expires 04-96-2021

Notary ID 131076493

Approved as to form and substance.

Michael A. Yanof, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 2 day of fuse 20/6

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 22nd day of June, 2018, by DRAKE ALAN DIETRICH, Registered Nurse License Number 846770, and said Order is final.

Effective this 19th day of July, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board