# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



**AGREED** § § In the Matter of

Registered Nurse License Number 801296

ORDER issued to SONYA LYTLE

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SONYA LYTLE, Registered Nurse License Number 801296, 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)&(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 May 21, 2018.

#### 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 in Nursing from Brazosport College, Lake 4. Jackson, Texas, on May 14, 2011. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 7, 2011.
- Respondent's professional nursing employment history includes: 5.

06/11 - 10/11

Unknown

C10LL

Respondent's professional nursing employment history continued:

11/11 - 03/13	ICU RN	Uvalde Memorial Hospital Uvalde, Texas
10/12 - 07/14	RN Case Manager	Encompass Home Health Corpus Christi, Texas
08/14 - 08/14	Unknown	
09/14 - 03/15	RN Case Manager	Corpus Christi Home Care Inc. Corpus Christi, Texas
03/15 - 09/15	RN Case Manager	Guardian Home Health Aransas Pass, Texas
09/15 - 12/15	RN Case Manager	Bethany Home Care Beeville, Texas
12/15 - 03/16	Interim Branch Director	Bethany Home Care Beeville, Texas
04/16 - 04/16	Unknown	
05/16 - 07/16	RN/ADON	Senior Care Center Sinton, Texas
08/16 - Present	Substitute School Nurse/Teacher PRN	Skidmore-Tynan ISD Skidmore, Texas

- 6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as the Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) with Senior Care Center, Sinton, Texas, and had been in that position for less than two (2) months.
- 7. On or about July 4, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Senior Care Center, Sinton, Texas, Respondent physically, mentally, and/or emotionally abused Resident Number 991099 by forcing the resident out of bed and into the dining room after he refused to eat or get out of bed. Additionally, Respondent forcefully fed Resident Number 991099 a "magic cup" fortified snack, against his will. Respondent's conduct created an unsafe environment and unnecessarily exposed the resident to abuse and risk of injury.
- 8. On or about September 29, 2016 and September 30, 2016, while employed as a substitute school nurse at Skidmore-Tynan Independent School District, Skidmore, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately and completely document medications administered on the individual student charts of all students who received medications. Respondent's conduct created incomplete student records.

- 9. On or about October 11, 2016, through October 14, 2016, while employed as a substitute school nurse at Skidmore-Tynan Independent School District, Skidmore, Texas, Respondent failed to secure medications and confidential student information by leaving the medicine cabinet open and the nurse's office door unlocked. Additionally, Respondent double charted on two (2) student charts. Respondent's conduct was contrary to laws intended to ensure confidentiality of student records.
- 10. On or about June 8, 2017, and March 13-15, 2018, Respondent underwent a Neuropsychological Evaluation with Sean G. Connolly, Ph.D. due to Respondent's physical health condition. Dr. Connolly advised that Respondent has already accepted, by her self-report, that she does not want to function in the clinical area of nursing. Dr. Connolly further advised that Respondent would have difficulty practicing nursing in a clinical setting with skill and safety, but could function effectively in some educational aspect of the nursing profession.
- In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) through Ten (10), regarding Resident 11. Number 991099, Respondent states she arrived to work and found the resident staring blankly at the wall, crying softly, with broken sunglasses hanging from his ears, and stating repeatedly that he didn't know where he was. Respondent states she reoriented the resident to date, time, and place. Respondent states she fed the resident breakfast and sat with him the entire time. Respondent states that the resident had intermittent moments of crying but ceased immediately after redirection. Respondent states that at the patient's first request to be taken back to his room, she complied. Regarding the school charts, Respondent states she shadowed the district nurse RN for less than 8 hours and states she was given a whirlwind of convoluted, verbal instruction. Respondent states that she felt the school district documentation system was redundant. Regarding the medicine cabinet, Respondent states she put in a maintenance request to repair the cabinet door lock. Regarding her physical condition, Respondent states that she has passed every cognitive test administered to her, has never been placed on a medical restriction, and receives check-ups every 8 weeks to ensure her physical and cognitive status.

#### 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),(B)&(D) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(4),(5)& (6)(C).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License

- Number 801296, heretofore issued to SONYA LYTLE, 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 <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 <u>www.bon.texas.gov/compliance</u>.

# 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.

BALANCE OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

#### 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.

Stened this 1 day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2

ONYA LYTLE, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>9rd</u> day of <u>July</u>, 20 18.

**SEAL** 

Virginia R. Ciain

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

VIRGINIA R. CRAIN

NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF TEXAS

COMM. EXP. 08-27-2018

NOTARY ID 125792757

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the <u>9th</u> day of <u>July</u>, 20<u>18</u>, by SONYA LYTLE, Registered Nurse License Number 801296, and said Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of August, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board