



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or its of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.
Katherine A. Thomas
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of § AGREED
Vocational Nurse License Number 218719 §
issued to PATRICIA ANN STEVENS § ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of PATRICIA ANN STEVENS, Vocational Nurse License Number 218719, 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 July 2, 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.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from North Central Texas College, Gainesville, Texas, on August 8, 2008. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on October 14, 2008.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2008 - 10/2009	Staff Nurse	Denton Rehabilitation Nursing Center Denton, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/2009 - 4/2010	Charge Nurse	The Vintage Senior Care Center Denton, Texas
5/2010 - 5/2012	Charge Nurse	Countryside Nursing and Rehabilitation Pilot Point, Texas
1/2012-7/2013	Charge Nurse	Cross Timbers Nursing and Rehabilitation Flower Mound, Texas
9/2013 - 1/2017	Charge Nurse	Corinth Rehabilitation Suites on the Parkway Corinth, Texas
2/2017 - Present	Nursing Assessment Coordinator	Corinth Rehabilitation Suites on the Parkway Corinth, Texas

6. At the time of the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent was employed as a Nursing Assessment Coordinator with Corinth Rehabilitation Suites on the Parkway, Corinth, Texas, and had been in that position for eleven (11) months.
7. On or about January 18, 2018, while employed as a Nursing Assessment Coordinator with Corinth Rehabilitation Suites on the Parkway, Corinth, Texas, Respondent failed to fully assess Resident MR, obtain vital signs, perform neurological checks, or call 911 when she saw the aforementioned resident on the floor of her room, not unresponsive with a small pool of blood by her head. Instead, Respondent waited until the Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) came into the room who requested a blood pressure (BP) cuff before Respondent assisted with obtaining vital signs. 911 was called, the resident was transported to the hospital, diagnosed with a subdural hematoma, traumatic brain injury, left rib fractures, contusion, and died two (2) days later. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the resident from unrecognized clinical changes, and deprived the resident of timely medical interventions.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that she heard someone say that the resident was on the floor. Respondent indicates that she turned to the resident's Charge Nurse, to inform her, who said that she was already aware, and had been there. Respondent adds that she then saw the Charge Nurse on the phone and believed at the time she was calling 911. Respondent states that she went into the resident's room, and saw the resident on her left side with a small pool of blood by her head. Respondent indicates that she grabbed her wrist to check her pulse, rubbed her sternum, and called her name several times. Respondent relates that the resident was snoring and started mumbling. Respondent adds that she expected the Charge Nurse to quickly return to the room, but she didn't, so she asked a certified nurse assistant (CNA) to get the ADON as she couldn't leave

the resident being the only nurse in the room. Respondent explains that within a few minutes the ADON came in, asked her to get a BP cuff which she got, and assisted the ADON with obtaining vitals, and then the ADON called for someone to call 911. Respondent relates that this surprised her as she thought 911 had already been called.

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)(M)&(2)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B)&(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 218719, heretofore issued to PATRICIA ANN STEVENS, 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 **REPRIMAND 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. A Board-approved course in physical assessment** with a didactic portion of not less than six (6) hours and a clinical component of not less than twenty-four (24) hours. Both the didactic and clinical components must be provided by the same Registered Nurse. The course's content shall include physical assessment of all body systems. The clinical component SHALL include physical assessment of live patients in a clinical setting; Performing assessments on mock patients or mannequins WILL NOT be accepted. The course description shall indicate goals and objectives for the course, resources to be utilized, and the methods to be used to determine successful completion of the course. Successful completion of this course requires RESPONDENT to successfully complete both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.
- C. 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 not being offered by a pre-approved 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 eight (8) quarterly periods [two (2) years] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until eight (8) 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:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, 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. Incident Reporting:** For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE each employer to immediately submit any and all incident, counseling, variance, unusual occurrence, and medication or other error reports involving RESPONDENT, as well as documentation of any internal investigations regarding action by RESPONDENT, to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.
- E. 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 eight (8) quarters [two (2) years] of employment as a nurse.

VI. 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.

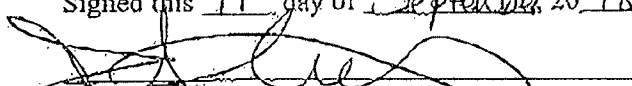
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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

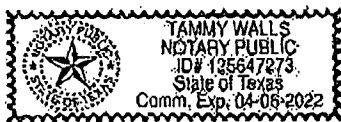
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary 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.

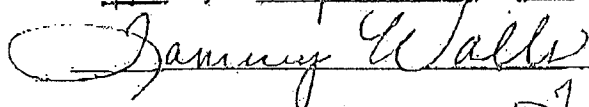
Signed this 11th day of September, 2018.


PATRICIA ANN STEVENS, Respondent

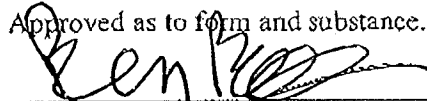
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of September, 2018.

SEAL




Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

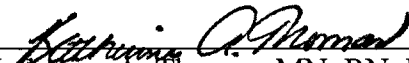
Approved as to form and substance.


Benjamin A. Baker, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 11th day of September, 2018.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 11th day of September, 2018, by PATRICIA ANN STEVENS, Vocational Nurse License Number 218719, and said Order is final.

Effective this 25th day of October, 2018.



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