BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 604059 issued to ALICE HOPKINS BUCHANAN AGREED ORDER

xecutive Director of the Board

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of ALICE HOPKINS BUCHANAN, Registered Nurse License Number 604059, 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 Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on January 31, 2019.

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 Agreed Order.
- 3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Trinity Valley Community College, Kaufman, Texas, on May 1, 1994. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on June 10, 1994.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

6/1994 - 5/2004

Unknown

6/2004-5/2006

Nursing Manager

Vitas Hospice Houston, Texas Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

6/2006-1/2010	Charge Nurse	West Place Nursing Center Malakoff, Texas
2/2010-3/2012	Charge Nurse	Cedar Lake Nursing & Rehabilitation Malakoff, Texas
4/2012-Present	Nursing Manager	Regency Nursing Clarksville, Texas
6/2018-8/2018	Charge Nurse	Senior Care of San Angelo San Angelo, Texas
9/2018-Present	Staff Nurse	Shannon Hospital San Angelo, Texas

- 6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Charge Nurse with Senior Care of San Angelo, San Angelo, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) months.
- 7. On or about August 4, 2018, through August 14, 2018, while employed as a Charge Nurse with Senior Care of San Angelo, San Angelo, Texas, Respondent failed to completely document nursing assessments and/or narrative notes regarding resident hospital transfers in the medical records of Resident JP, JT, and ST. Respondent's conduct resulted in incomplete medical records and exposed the residents to a risk of harm in that subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information on which to base their care decisions.
- In response to the incidents in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that the facility was short of staff and supplies much of the time. Respondent states that Resident JP had a change in condition, and she immediately went and assessed him. At that time, she called his doctor and got an order to send him to the hospital. Respondent states that for Resident JT, she did three dressing changes on the resident, as ordered, and there was no change in condition noted at any time. Respondent states that the resident was sent to the hospital hours after Respondent left her shift. Respondent states that she last checked on Resident ST around 4pm, and he was fine at that time; he was sent to the hospital the next day.

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)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A)&(1)(C).
- 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 604059, heretofore issued to ALICE HOPKINS BUCHANAN.
- 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 **REMEDIAL EDUCATION** 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 Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and this Agreed 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. <u>A Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics</u> 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 and video programs will not be approved.
- B. A Board-approved course in nursing documentation that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. <u>The course "Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills,"</u> 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 pre-approved 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>.

V. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed 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 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 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 possible revocation of my license(s) and/or privileges to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this 19 day of Jew, 20/9

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of Feb

SEAL

AARON DIXON Notary IQ#131243983 My Commission Expires Notary Public in and for the State of <u>Jexus</u>

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 19th day of February, 2019, by ALICE HOPKINS BUCHANAN, Registered Nurse License Number 604059, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 21st day of February, 2019.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board