

In the Matter of Permanent Certificate § δ Number 624060 issued to DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON

AGREED ORDER

An investigation by the Board produced evidence indicating that DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, license number 624060, may have violated Article 4525(b)(9), Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended.

An informal conference was held on November 3, 1998, at the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners, in accordance with Article 4524C, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended.

Respondent participated telephonically. Respondent was represented by Daniel Barton, Attorney at Law. In attendance were Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director; J. Kent Black, General Counsel; Anthony L. Diggs, MSCJ, Director of Investigations; and Jeanne E. Jacobson, BSN, RN, Investigator.

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.
- 2. Respondent waived notice and hearing, and consented to the entry of this Order.
- Respondent's license to practice professional nursing in Texas is inactive. 3.
- 4. Respondent received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing from Shelby State Community College, Memphis, Tennessee, in May 1994. She was licensed as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas on December 7, 1995.

Executive Director of the Board

5. Respondent's professional employment history includes:

May 1994-1996

Staff Nurse

Trauma Intensive Care Unit (ICU)
Regional Medical Center at Memphis

Memphis, Tennessee

February 5, 1996 -June 1998

Staff Nurse

Critical Care Unit/ICU

Memorial City Medical Center

Houston, Texas

June 1998-Present

Unemployed in nursing

- 6. At the time of the incidents, Respondent was employed as a Staff Nurse in the Coronary Care Unit with Memorial City Medical Center, Houston, Texas, and had been in this position for one (1) month.
- 7. On or about March 5, 1996, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Memorial City Medical Center, Houston, Texas, Respondent withdrew Morphine 40 milligrams (mg) for Patient # 428091 over a four (4) hour period from the Pyxis system but only administered 30 mg per the physician's order. Respondent's failure to document the wastage correctly in the system was likely to deceive the facility by creating inaccurate records.
- 8. On or about March 5, 1996, while employed with the aforementioned facility, Respondent documented giving Tylenol by mouth (po) to a patient, however, on the Medication Administration Record (MAR) she documented the dose as being given rectally. Respondent's failure to correctly document the route of administration of Tylenol was likely to deceive other medical personnel from an inaccurate medical record.
- 9. On or about March 6, 1996, while employed with the aforementioned facility, Respondent administered Haldol 90 mg to a patient over a four (4) hour period. There was no written physician's order for this dose and frequency. Respondent's failure to document the physician's order was likely to deceive other medical personnel by not having an accurate and complete medical record.
- 10. On or about March 10, 1996, while employed with the aforementioned facility, Respondent failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of medications when she removed Demerol 50 mg from the Pyxis system but documented in the patient's MAR that Demerol 25 mg was administered to the patient. The remaining Demerol 25 mg was not documented as wasted. Respondent's failure to document the wastage of Demerol was likely to deceive the facility by creating inaccurate records.

- 11. On or about March 10, 1996, while employed with the aforementioned facility, Respondent removed two (2) vials of Vasotec 2.5 mg from the Pyxis system at 12:00 midnight and two (2) more vials at 6:00 a.m., but documented on the patient's MAR that Vasotec 2.5 mg was administered each time. Respondent's failure to correctly reconcile the amount of Vasotec withdrawn with the amount administered was likely to deceive the facility by creating inaccurate records.
- 12. Respondent completed an extended orientation period following the aforementioned incidents, and worked with the facility educator on medication administration during this time. In addition, Respondent completed a six (6) hour continuing education classroom course on medication administration and pharmacology in September 1998.
- 13. Respondent remained employed at the aforementioned facility and received a commendable evaluation in September, 1997. In addition, Respondent's supervisor verified that she had no additional medication or practice errors after the initial incidents, and that she felt Respondent learned from the previous mistakes.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to Article 4525, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter.
- 2. Notice was served in accordance with law.
- 3. The evidence received is sufficient to prove violations of Article 4525(b)(9), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN., and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.13(5)&(14).
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Article 4525(b), TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN., to take disciplinary action against license number 624060, heretofore issued to DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON.

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AGREED SANCTIONS

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED, subject to ratification by the Board of Nurse Examiners, that RESPONDENT SHALL receive the sanction of a Warning with Stipulations, and RESPONDENT SHALL comply in all respects with the Nursing Practice Act, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas as amended, Art. 4513 et. seq., the Rules and Regulations Relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §211.01 et. seq. and this Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that:

- (1) RESPONDENT SHALL deliver the wallet-size license issued to DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON, to the office of the Board of Nurse Examiners within ten (10) days of the date of this Order for appropriate notation.
- (2) RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of entry of this Order, successfully complete a course in nursing jurisprudence. RESPONDENT SHALL obtain Board approval of the course prior to enrollment. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved. In order for the course to be approved, the target audience must include registered nurses. It must be a minimum of six (6) contact hours in length. The course's content shall include the Nursing Practice Act, standards of practice, and documentation of care. Courses focusing on malpractice issues will not be accepted. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the sponsoring institution to submit a Verification of Course Completion form, provided by the Board, to the Office of the Board to verify RESPONDENT's successful completion of the course. This course is to be taken in addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may have for relicensure.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, that upon full compliance with the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL be issued an unencumbered license to practice professional 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 violations alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Agreed Sanctions, and any conditions of this Order to avoid further disciplinary action in this matter. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me.

> Signed this 28 day of January, 1999. DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of Jamary, 1999.

SEAL

Lanun Bte Abd Rahim

Notary Public in and for the State of TEXAS

Commission Expires

Approved as to form and substance

Daniel Barton, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this Z-day of Feb., 1999

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the __28thday of _______, 19_99, by DIANE MARY (ROELKE) STEPHENSON, license number 624060, and said Order is final.

Effective this 9th day of March, 199.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, R Executive Director on behalf

of said Board