BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

8888 In the Matter of

Registered Nurse License Number 670287

issued to JOHN PATRICK YERGER

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 JOHN PATRICK YERGER, Registered Nurse License Number 670287, 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 April 17, 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 Amarillo College, Amarillo, Texas, on May 1, 2000. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on July 11, 2000, was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Kansas on June 10, 2005, and was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Missouri on July 15, 2011.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

7/2000 - 2008

Unknown

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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2009 – 2011	Staff Flight Nurse	Lifeteam Newton, Kansas
2011 - 2013	Staff Nurse	American Mobile Nursing Various Locations
2012	Registered Nurse	AMG Wichita, Kansas
04/2013 - 09/2018	Registered Nurse	Methodist Dallas Medical Center Dallas, Texas
2018	Staff Nurse	John Peter Smith Hospital Fort Worth, Texas
2018 - Present	Unknown	

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and had been in that position for five (5) years and five (5) months.
- 7. On or about September 22, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent exceeded his scope of authorized practice by initiating intravenous (IV) access to former coworkers, who were not patients at the time, with misappropriated IV infusion products and without a physician's orders. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure his former coworkers in that the administration of medications without a valid physician's order could result in the former coworkers suffering from adverse reactions. Additionally, Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients, thereof, of the cost of the medications and supplies.
- 8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that he accepts the conduct as alleged and is remorseful for choosing to do so. Respondent states that he did initiate the access sites, but did not administer any fluids. Respondent states that this particular incident was a poor choice made during a momentary lapse of judgment.

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)(C) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B),(4), (6)(G)&(10)(E).
- 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 670287, heretofore issued to JOHN PATRICK YERGER.
- 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 WITH FINE** 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. 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 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. MONETARY FINE

RESPONDENT SHALL pay a monetary fine in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Order. Payment is to be made directly to the Texas Board of Nursing in the form of cashier's check or U.S. money order. Partial payments will not be accepted.

VI. 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 <u>J</u> day of <u>JUNU</u>, 20 <u>J</u>.

JOHN PATRICK YERGER, Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2 day of 10, 20/9.

SEAL

SCOTTIE VALDEZ lotary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 07-05-2020 Notary ID 130726142

Notary Public in and for the State of Mass

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 2nd day of June, 2019, by JOHN PATRICK YERGER, Registered Nurse License Number 670287, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of June, 2019.

Kathima a. Moman

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board