

# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER
Vocational Nurse License Number 321656	§	
issued to DANIEL LAMONT BELCHER	§	
	§	

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DANIEL LAMONT BELCHER, Vocational Nurse License Number 321656, 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), 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 September 3, 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 vocational nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
4. Respondent received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Houston Community College, Houston, Texas, on August 8, 2014. Respondent was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on September 9, 2014.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

9/2014 – 9/2017	LVN	Winterhaven Health Care Houston, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

10/2017 – 3/2018	LVN	Park Manor Cypress Station Houston, Texas
3/2018 – Present	LVN	Ashford Gardens Houston, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Park Manor Cypress Station, Houston, Texas, and had been in that position for five (5) months.
7. On or about February 2018, while employed as a Licensed Vocational Nurse with Park Manor of Cypress Station, Houston, Texas, Respondent misappropriated fifteen (15) Norco tablets belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Furthermore, Respondent admitted that he removed the Norco tablets from the facility. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patients thereof of the cost of the medications.
8. On or about March 22, 2018, Respondent was referred to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for suspected diversion, and subsequently signed a Participation Agreement. On or about April 29, 2019, while participating in TPAPN, Respondent tested positive on a drug screen for alcohol. On or about July 15, 2019, while participating in TPAPN, Respondent tested positive on a drug screen for Hydromorphone and Hydrocodone. Consequently, due to Respondent's positive drug tests, TPAPN referred Respondent to the Texas Board of Nursing. Respondent's condition could have affected his ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in conditions, and could have affected his ability to make rational, accurate and appropriate assessments, judgments and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing patients in potential danger.
9. In response to Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states he had been in a car accident and, when he had used all his pain medication, he no longer had health insurance to afford more medication. Respondent relates he did not think anyone would notice the missing medications. In response to Finding of Fact of Number Eight (8), Respondent states he tested positive for alcohol and pain medications respectively.
10. Respondent's compliance with the terms of a Board approved peer assistance program should be sufficient to protect patients and the public.

#### 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 §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B),(4),(5),(6)(G),(8),(9),(10)(A),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10)&(12), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Vocational Nurse License Number 321656, heretofore issued to DANIEL LAMONT BELCHER.
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.
6. The Board may, in its discretion, order a nurse to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the Board if the nurse would otherwise have been eligible for referral to peer assistance pursuant to Section 301.410, Texas Occupations Code.

#### **TERMS OF ORDER**

##### **I. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL comply with the following conditions for such a time as is required for RESPONDENT to successfully complete the **Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN)**:

- A. **Within forty-five (45) days** following the effective date of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL apply to TPAPN.
- B. **Within ninety (90) days** following the effective date of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL sign and execute the TPAPN participation agreement and complete the enrollment process, which SHALL include payment of a non-refundable participation fee payable to TPAPN in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), if licensed as a registered nurse, or in the amount of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00), if licensed as a vocational nurse.
- C. Upon acceptance into the TPAPN, RESPONDENT SHALL **waive confidentiality and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.**
- D. RESPONDENT SHALL **comply with all requirements of the TPAPN participation agreement** during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas in current status.

- E. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement.
- F. This Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to RESPONDENT to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- G. This Order SHALL be applicable to RESPONDENT'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- H. 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. 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 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 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 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](http://www.bon.texas.gov/compliance).*

**IV. SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS**

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, should the RESPONDENT'S conduct, as outlined in the findings of fact of this Agreed Order, result in subsequent judicial action, including a deferred disposition, RESPONDENT may be subject to further disciplinary action, up to, and including, revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

**V. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE**

SHOULD RESPONDENT fail to comply with this Order or the terms of the participation agreement with the TPAPN, such noncompliance will result in further disciplinary action including TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, or REVOCATION of RESPONDENT'S license(s) and nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

**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) and/or privilege(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**

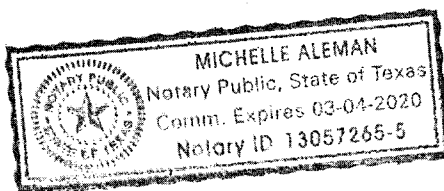
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order and all conditions of said Order to obtain disposition of the allegations through peer assistance and 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 TEMPORARY SUSPENSION pursuant to Section 301.4551, Texas Occupations Code, and/or 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 14 day of October, 20 19.

*Daniel Lamont Belcher*  
DANIEL LAMONT BELCHER, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 20 19.

SEAL



*Michelle Aleman*  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

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 14th day of October, 2019, by DANIEL LAMONT BELCHER, Vocational Nurse License Number 321656, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 16th day of October, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Thomas".

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