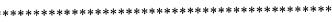
BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



In the Matter of §

Registered Nurse License Number 776941

issued to DAWN MARIE ELIMON

AGREED ORDER

xecutive Director of the Board

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On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DAWN MARIE ELIMON, Registered Nurse License Number 776941, 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 August 13, 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 Polk Community College, Winter Haven, Florida, on December 16, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 27, 2009.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2009 - 09/2013

Unknown

10/2013 - 05/2014

RN

Advanced Home Health

Seguin, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

| 05/2014 - 01/2016 | RN | Resolute Health Hospital New Braunfels, Texas |
|-------------------|---------|--|
| 01/2016 - 05/2017 | RN | CTMC Hospice San Marcos, Texas |
| 05/2017 – 11/2017 | RN | MGA Pediatric Homecare Austin, Texas |
| 12/2017 – 06/2018 | Unknown | |
| 07/2018 - 09/2018 | RN | Canyon Vista Medical Center Sierra Vista, Arizona |
| 10/2018 - Present | Unknown | |

- 6. On or about November 13, 2018, Respondent was issued the sanction of Warning with Stipulations through an Order of the Board. A copy of the November 13, 2018, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Agreed Order.
- 7. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Canyon Vista Medical Center, Sierra Vista, Arizona and had been in that position for two (2) months.
- 8. On or about September 3, 2018 through September 17, 2018, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing from the State of Texas and employed as a Registered Nurse with Canyon Vista Medical Center, Sierra Vista, Arizona, Respondent withdrew Hydromorphone, Fentanyl, Morphine, and Oxycodone from the medication dispensing system for patients but failed to document and/or accurately and completely document the administration of the medication in the patient's Medication Administration Record (MAR) and/or Nurses Notes. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patients, in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patients, which could result in an overdose. Additionally, Respondent's conduct placed the hospital in violation of Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.
- 9. On or about August 1, 2018 through September 17, 2018, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing from the State of Texas and employed as a Registered Nurse with Canyon Vista Medical Center, Sierra Vista, Arizona, Respondent withdrew Fentanyl, Lorazepam, Hydromorphone, Morphine, and Oxycodone from the medication dispensing system for patients but failed to follow the facility's policy and procedure for wastage of the unused portions of the medications. Respondent's conduct left medications

unaccounted for, was likely to deceive the hospital pharmacy, and placed the pharmacy in violation of the Chapter 481 (Controlled Substance Act) of the Texas health and Safety Code

- 10. On or about August 1, 2018 through September 17, 2018, while utilizing a Privilege to Practice (PTP) nursing from the State of Texas and employed as a Registered Nurse with Canyon Vista Medical Center, Sierra Vista, Arizona, Respondent misappropriated 50mcg of Fentanyl from Patient J.A., 150mcg of Fentanyl from Patient C.L., 1.5mg of Lorazepam from Patient S.R., 225mcg of Fentanyl and 0.5mg of Hydromorphone from Patient V.C., 1mg of Hydromorphone from Patient J.C., 75mcg of Fentanyl from Patient S.S., 150mcg of Fentanyl from Patient U.D., 100mcg of Fentanyl and 4mg of Morphine from Patient M.P., and two (2) tabs of Oxycodone 5/325 from Patient M.M., belonging to the facility and patients thereof, or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent's conduct was likely to defraud the facility and patient's thereof of the cost of the medications.
- 11. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Eight (8) through Ten (10), Respondent admits she failed to properly waste medications in the computer system while working as a Registered Nurse in the emergency department at Canyon Vista Medical Center. She states it was not done with poor intention and she found herself working a very busy, fast paced environment, and was having difficulty keeping up and learning the flow and charting system. Respondent states she was taken off orientation status rather quickly and when she spoke to her preceptor about needing more education, she was denied and was told due to staffing it would not be possible to get further orientation. She states she attempted to continue to work her shifts but still had difficulty keeping up with the work load and didn't have the help or support of other staff.
- 12. Formal Charges were filed on April 16, 2019.
- 13. On or about July 2, 2019 and July 30, 2019, Respondent underwent a Chemical Dependency Evaluation performed by John K. Reid, PhD. Dr. Reid advises none of the psychological testing data from the three standardized psychological tests administered were consistent with results indicating the presence of a substance abuse disorder. Dr. Reid states Respondent may not be well suited for a large, socially demanding work setting, particularly one that is very fast paced and high pressures, and that requires significant individual assertiveness and confrontation, and requires a consistently high energy level. Dr. Reid states Respondent would benefit from avoiding work in high stress inpatient units and night shift or rotating shift assignments, particularly giving her long-term reported sleep difficulties. Dr. Reid recommends Respondent would benefit from individual psychotherapy in that it would be helpful to her becoming less prone to occasional depression, and better able to manage common anxieties. Dr. Reid states if Respondent attends psychotherapy as recommended, Respondent appears to be able to safely and effectively perform the essential job functions of nursing

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)&(1)(D) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B), (1)(C),(4),(6)(G),(8),(10)(C),(10)(E)&(11)(B).
- 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 776941, heretofore issued to DAWN MARIE ELIMON.
- 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 Nursing Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§211.1 et seq., and this Agreed Order.

HI. SUPERSEDING ORDER

IT IS FURTHER AGREED and ORDERED that the sanction and conditions of this Agreed Order SHALL supersede all previous stipulations required by any Order entered by the Texas Board of Nursing.

IV. 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.

V. 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 medication administration 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: a review of proper administration procedures for all standard routes; computation of drug dosages; the six (6) rights of medication administration; factors influencing the choice of route; and possible adverse effects resulting from improper administration. The clinical component SHALL focus on tasks of medication administration only. 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. <u>A Board-approved course in nursing documentation</u> 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.
- D. <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 www.bon.texas.gov/compliance.

VI. 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, <u>for a minimum of sixty-four (64) hours per month</u> 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. No Critical Care: For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL NOT practice as a nurse in any critical care area. Critical care areas include, but are not limited to, intensive care units, emergency rooms, operating rooms, telemetry units, recovery rooms, and labor and delivery units.
- D. **Direct Supervision:** For the first year [four (4) quarters] of employment as a Nurse under this order, RESPONDENT SHALL be directly 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. Direct supervision requires another nurse, as applicable, to be working on the same unit as RESPONDENT and immediately available to provide assistance and intervention. RESPONDENT SHALL work only on 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.
- E. Indirect Supervision: For the remainder of the stipulation/probation period, 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 of 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.

F. 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.

VII. DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

- A. While under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL abstain from the use of alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances, except as prescribed by a licensed practitioner for a legitimate purpose. If prescribed, RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the licensed practitioner to submit a written report identifying the medication, dosage and the date the medication was prescribed. The report shall be submitted directly to the office of the Board by the prescribing practitioner, within ten (10) days of the date of the prescription. In the event that the prescriptions for controlled substances are required for periods of two (2) weeks or longer, the Board may require and RESPONDENT SHALL submit to a pain management and/or chemical dependency evaluation by a Board approved evaluator. The performing evaluator must submit a written report meeting the Board's requirements to the Board's office within thirty (30) days from the Board's request.
- B. While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL submit to random periodic screens for alcohol, nalbuphine, propofol and all controlled substances. The Board will provide instructions on how to enroll in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program following the entry of this Order and screening will begin when RESPONDENT obtains employment and submits the Notification of Employment form to the Board.
 - For the first three (3) month [1st quarter] period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, random screens shall be performed at least once per week.
 - For the next three (3) month [2nd quarter] period, random screens shall be performed at least twice per month.
 - For the next six (6) month period [3rd & 4th quarters], random screens shall be performed at least once per month.

• For the remainder of the probation period, if any, random screens shall be performed at least once every three (3) month quarterly period.

All random screens SHALL BE conducted through urinalysis. Any test result for a period of time in which the RESPONDENT is not working as a nurse under the terms of this Order will not count towards satisfaction of this requirement. All screens shall be properly monitored and produced in accordance with the Board's policy on Random Drug Testing. A complete chain of custody shall be maintained for each specimen obtained and analyzed. RESPONDENT SHALL be responsible for the costs of all random drug screening during the stipulation/probation period.

<u>Specimens shall be screened</u> for any or all of the following substances and/or their metabolites:

| Amphetamine | Methamphetamine | MDMA |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| MDA | Alprazolam | Diazepam |
| Alpha-o-alprazolam | Alpha-Hydroxytriazolam | Clonazepam |
| Desmethyldiazepam | Lorazepam | Midazolam |
| Oxazepam | Temazepam | Amobarbital |
| Butabarbital | Butalbital | Pentobarbital |
| Phenobarbital | Secobarbital | Codeine |
| Hydrocodone | Hydromorphone | Methadone |
| Morphine | Opiates | Oxycodone |
| Oxymorphone | Propoxyphene | Cannabinoids |
| Cocaine | Phencyclidine | Ethanol |
| Heroin | Fentanyl | Tramadol |
| Meperidine | Carisoprodol | Butorphanol |
| Nalbuphine | Ketamine | Propofol |

Upon enrollment in the Board's drug and alcohol testing program, RESPONDENT SHALL, on a daily basis, call or login online to the Board's designated drug and alcohol testing vendor to determine whether or not RESPONDENT has been selected to produce a specimen for screening that day and SHALL, if selected, produce a specimen for screening that same day at an approved testing location and/or comply with any additional instructions from the vendor or Board staff. Further, a Board representative may appear at the RESPONDENT'S place of employment at any time during the probation period and require RESPONDENT to produce a specimen for screening.

Consequences of Positive or Missed Screens. Any positive result for which RESPONDENT does not have a valid prescription or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen may subject RESPONDENT to 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. Further, failure to report for a drug screen, excessive dilute specimens, or failure

to call in for a drug screen may be considered the same as a positive result or refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol screen.

VIII. THERAPY REPORTS

While working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, RESPONDENT SHALL participate in therapy with a professional counselor with credentials approved by the Board. RESPONDENT SHALL CAUSE the therapist to submit written reports, on forms provided by the Board, as to the RESPONDENT'S progress in therapy, rehabilitation and capability to safely practice nursing. The report must indicate whether or not the RESPONDENT'S stability is sufficient to provide direct patient care safely. For the first three (3) month quarterly period RESPONDENT works as a nurse under the terms of this Order, reports are to be submitted to the Board each and every month. If therapy is recommended by the counselor for an additional period of time, the reports shall then be submitted to the Board at the end of each three (3) month quarterly period in which the RESPONDENT is working as a nurse under the terms of this Order, for the remainder of the term of the Order, or until RESPONDENT is dismissed from therapy, whichever is earlier.

IX. 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. 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 is subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy of this Order will be mailed to me once the Order becomes effective. 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 30 day of Sept., 2019.

DAWN MARIE ELIMON, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this $\frac{30}{\text{Mare} \text{Durpero}}$ day of $\frac{\text{Sept.}}{\text{SEAL}}$, $\frac{2019}{\text{Mare}}$.

GRACE GUERRERO Notary Public, State of Texas Comm. Exp. 11-20-2022 ID No. 12588937-8

Notary Public in and for the State of <u>Texas</u>

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 30th day of September, 2019, by DAWN MARIE ELIMON, Registered Nurse License Number 776941, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 12th day of November, 2019.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board



In the Matter of

§ AGREED

Registered Nurse License Number 776941

§

issued to DAWN MARIE ELIMON

§ ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of DAWN MARIE ELIMON, Registered Nurse License Number 776941, 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 June 21, 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 professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Associate Degree from Polk State College, Winter Haven, Florida on December 16, 2005. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on October 27, 2009.
- 5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

10/2009 - 12/2015

Unknown

776941:277

C10

Executive Director of the Board

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

| 01/2016 - 11/2016 | RN | CTMC Hospice San Marcos, Texas |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 12/2016 - 04/2017 | RN | Your Home Health Care Kyle, Texas |
| 05/2017 - 10/2017 | RN | MGA Healthcare Austin, Texas |
| 11/2017 - Present | Unknown | |

THEOTY TOOGHE CHRILOWN

- 6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with MGA Healthcare, Austin, Texas, and had been in that position for five (5) months.
- 7. On or about October 15, 2017, through October 26, 2017, while employed as a Registered Nurse with MGA Healthcare, Austin, Texas, and assigned to provide skilled nursing to Patient J.H., Respondent failed to completely document the nursing care provided to the patient on four (4) shifts and instead submitted partial notes. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would not have complete information on which to base their care decisions.
- 8. On or about October 25, 2017, and October 26, 2017, while employed as a Registered Nurse with MGA Healthcare, Austin, Texas, and assigned to provide skilled nursing to Patient J.H., Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she was found sleeping while on duty. Respondent's conduct was likely to injure the patient in that it adversely affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in the patient's conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgements, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patient in potential danger.
- 9. In response to Finding of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states she placed carbon copies of the documentation for Patient JH in the MGA notebook in the home. She stated when the missing paperwork was discussed, the day shift nurse and the patient's mother looked in the binder and was told the documentation was found. Respondent states the father was not home when he allegedly found her asleep, stating he was not present her entire shift. Respondent claims that the parents of the Patient JH would allow her to take her allotted breaks and oversee the patient, and at times she would set an alarm and take a nap. Respondent states there was always someone accounting for and overseeing the care of the patient.
- 10. Formal Charges were filed on June 1, 2018.

11. Formal Charges were mailed to Respondent on June 4, 2018.

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)&(1)(T) and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE \$217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(E)&(4).
- 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 776941, heretofore issued to DAWN MARIE ELIMON.
- 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 **WARNING 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

- 3 -

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. 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 preapproved 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 four (4) quarterly periods [one (1) year] of employment. This requirement will not be satisfied until four (4) 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: 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. 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 four (4) quarters [one (1) year] 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 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 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 <u>10</u> day of <u>0ctober</u> , 2018 |
|--|---|
| | Delimon |
| , | DAWN MARIE ELIMON, Respondent |
| | • |
| Sworn to and subscribed before me | this <u>10</u> day of <u>October</u> , 20 <u>18</u> . |
| SEAL | - Eva Stude |
| EVA STUBBS | Notary Public in and for the State of |
| Notary Public, State of Texas My Comm. Exp. 01-12-2022 | |

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 10th day of October, 2018, by DAWN MARIE ELIMON, Registered Nurse License Number 776941, and said Order is final.

Effective this 13th day of November, 2018.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board