



I do hereby certify this to be a complete, accurate, and true copy of the document which is on file or is of record in the offices of the Texas Board of Nursing.  
*Katherine A. Thomas*  
Executive Director of the Board

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER  
Registered Nurse License Number 704162 §  
issued to SHANNON SPRING BALENTINE §  
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of SHANNON SPRING BALENTINE, Registered Nurse License Number 704162, 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)&(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 October 29, 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 12, 2003. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on April 1, 2004.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

4/2004 – 8/2004	Registered Nurse	Medical City Dallas, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

9/2004 – 12/2006	Registered Nurse	Parkland Health and Hospital Dallas, Texas
12/2006 – 2/2007	Unknown	
2/2007 – 5/2007	Registered Nurse	Nova Pro Staffing Abilene Regional Medical Center Abilene, Texas
5/2007 – 8/2007	Unknown	
8/2007 – 9/2008	Registered Nurse	Doctors Hospital Dallas, Texas
9/2008 – 11/2008	Unknown	
11/2008 – 2/2009	Registered Nurse	Nightingale Nurses Travel Co Southwest General Hospital San Antonio, Texas
2/2009 – 3/2009	Unknown	
3/2009 – 1/2010	Registered Nurse	Stone Oak Methodist Hospital San Antonio, Texas
1/2010 – 3/2010	Unknown	
3/2010 – 1/2011	Registered Nurse	Central Texas Medical Center San Marcos, Texas
1/2011 – 11/2011	Unknown	
11/2011 – 2/2012	Registered Nurse	Nurses Rx Travel Co Methodist Hospital Dallas, Texas
2/2012 – 3/2012	Unknown	
3/2012 – 6/2012	Registered Nurse	Nightingale Travel Nurses Longview Regional Longview, Texas

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

6/2012 – 7/2012	Unknown	
7/2012 – 11/2012	Registered Nurse	Nightingale Travel Nurses St. Marks Medical Center La Grange, Texas
11/2012 – 1/2013	Registered Nurse	Nightingale Travel Nurses St. Joseph Medical Center Houston, Texas
1/2013 – 3/2013	Unknown	
3/2013 – 6/2013	Registered Nurse	Supplemental Healthcare Travel Co Scott & White Hospital Brenham, Texas
6/2013 – 7/2013	Unknown	
7/2013 – 10/2013	Registered Nurse	Supplemental Healthcare Travel Co Christus Spohn Santa Rosa Corpus Christi, Texas
10/2013 – 12/2013	Unknown	
12/2013 – 4/2014	Registered Nurse	Nightingale Travel Nurses Longview Regional Longview, Texas
4/2014 – 1/2015	Unknown	
1/2015 – 9/2015	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co McAllen Medical Center McAllen, Texas
9/2015 – 1/2016	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co Valley Regional Medical Center Brownsville, Texas
1/2016 – 2/2016	Unknown	

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

2/2016 – 3/2016	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co Dimmit Regional Hospital Carrizo Springs, Texas
3/2016 – 5/2016	Unknown	
5/2016 – 7/2016	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co Paris Regional Hospital Paris, Texas
7/2016 – 8/2016	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co Fort Duncan Regional Hospital Eagle Pass, Texas
8/2016 – 10/2016	Unknown	
10/2016 – Present	Registered Nurse	Trustaff Travel Nurse Co Pampa Regional Medical Center Pampa, Texas
5/2017 – 3/2018	Registered Nurse	Christus Spohn Hospital Kleburg Kingsville, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with CHRISTUS SPOHN - Kleburg, Kingsville, Texas, and had been in that position for ten (10) months.
7. On or about March 14, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with CHRISTUS SPOHN - Kleburg, Kingsville, Texas, and assigned to the Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Post-Partum Unit, Respondent lacked fitness to practice nursing in that she was sleeping while on duty. As a result, while holding an infant, Pt AQ0001239052, the infant slid down her legs. Respondent's conduct could have affected her ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms or changes in patients' conditions, and could have affected her ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing the patients in potential danger.
8. On or about March 14, 2018, while employed as a Registered Nurse with CHRISTUS SPOHN - Kleburg, Kingsville, Texas, and assigned to the Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Post-Partum Unit, Respondent failed to document the incident in the medical record of Pt AQ0001239052. 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.

9. In response to Findings of Fact Numbers Seven (7) and Eight (8), Respondent states she possibly became drowsy, relaxed her legs, and then the infant slid down her legs and Respondent scooped up the infant. Respondent states she assessed the infant and the infant was fine. Respondent states she filed the variance report on her next shift, within 24 hours of the incident, which was within policy requirements.
10. Formal Charges were filed on April 9, 2019.

### 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)(B),(1)(C),(1)(E),(4)&(5).
4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(10),(12)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 704162, heretofore issued to SHANNON SPRING BALENTINE.
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 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. **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.

- 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 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).*

#### 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 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.
- 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. 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.

## VII. 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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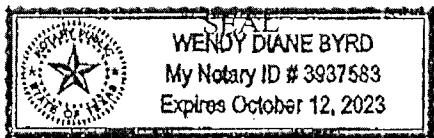
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RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

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 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.  
Shannon Spring Balentine  
SHANNON SPRING BALENTINE, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.



Wendy D. Byrd  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 12th day of November, 2019, by SHANNON SPRING BALENTINE, Registered Nurse License Number 704162, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 10th day of December, 2019.



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