# BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of Registered Nurse License Number 936582 issued to LYN JOHNSON A KS

AGREED ORDER FOR KSTAR PROGRAM

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LYN JOHNSON, Registered Nurse License Number 936582, 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)(13), Texas Occupations Code.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Agreed Order for KSTAR Program approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on January 27, 2020.

#### 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 for KSTAR Program.
- 3. Respondent's license to practice as a professional nurse in the State of Texas is in current status.
- 4. Respondent received a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, Texas, on August 1, 2017. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 23, 2018.

C10(KSTAR)

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

2/2018 – 1/2019 Registered Nurse UT Southwestern Medical Center

Dallas, Texas

2/2019 - 3/2019 Unknown

4/2019 - Present Registered Nurse

Parkland Urgent Care Center

Dallas, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas and had been in that position for eleven (11) months

- 7. On or about January 15, 2019, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and caring for Patient MRN 94048150, a patient transferred to the ICU for a higher level of care as a result of septic shock/hypoxia, Respondent failed to validate the patient's vital signs in order to preserve them in the patient's medical record; instead, the patient's vital signs were validated by the leadership team. Respondent's conduct could have resulted in an incomplete medical record, and could have contributed to injury to the patient in that subsequent care givers did not have accurate and complete information on which to base their decisions for further care.
- 8. On or about January 15, 2019, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the ICU at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to adjust the rate of norepinephrine being administered to the aforementioned Patient MRN 94048150 in order to keep the patient's mean arterial pressure above 65, as ordered. Respondent's conduct could have contributed to injury to the patient in that failure to administer medications as ordered could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment.
- 9. On or about January 15, 2019, while employed as a Registered Nurse in the ICU at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to document the doses of norepinephrine administered to the aforementioned Patient MRN 94048150 in the medication administration record, and failed to document that she stopped the norepinephrine at 0500. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record, and could have contributed to injury to the patient in that subsequent care givers did not have accurate and complete information on which to base their decisions for further care.
- 10. In response to the incidents in Finding of Facts Number Seven (7) and Nine (9), Respondent states that she takes accountability for not charting the norepinephrine titration and not validating q15 minute vitals. Respondent states that one reason for not validating the vital signs was due to her concerns that many blood pressure readings were not accurate due to the inability to keep the patient's blood pressure cuff in place as a result of the patient's

combativeness and the discomfort the patient experienced when the blood pressure was taken. Respondent states she was constantly in the patient's room to monitor and assess the patient, including assessing the patient's vital signs and oxygen saturation levels. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states that she called the physician to the bedside because the patient was unstable with tachycardia, low blood pressure, and needed an arterial line and a central line. When the physician was at the bedside, Respondent states that she insisted that the physician place an arterial line to get an accurate blood pressure reading and place a central line to run the norepinephrine drip. Respondent states that the physician was hesitant about starting any immediate interventions because the patient was combative and the physician wanted her to wean down the norepinephrine. The physician placed orders for an electrocardiogram and a fluid bolus. Respondent states that the patient did not respond to the fluid bolus and she again called the physician asking why he wanted to wean the norepinephrine drip and his response changed to the family not wanting any lines placed at this time. The physician stated that he would like to have the norepinephrine drip off, so Respondent states she asked him to discontinue the medication order and write orders for blood pressure parameters. Respondent states that the physician wrote an order for blood pressure parameters of MAPs above 50 and to notify him otherwise.

11. On or about October 15, 2019, Respondent successfully completed a Board approved course in sharpening critical thinking skills.

# 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  $\S217.11(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C),(1)(D)\&(1)(M)$ .
- 4. The evidence received is sufficient cause pursuant to Section 301.452(b)(13), Texas Occupations Code, to take disciplinary action against Registered Nurse License Number 936582, heretofore issued to LYN JOHNSON.
- 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 for KSTAR Program.

# III. KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, TRAINING, ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH (KSTAR) PROGRAM

IT IS AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL, within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order, successfully complete the Knowledge, Skills, Training, Assessment and Research (KSTAR) Program and RESPONDENT SHALL:

A. Within forty-five (45) days following the effective date of this Order, apply to and enroll in the KSTAR Program, including payment of any fees and costs, unless otherwise agreed in writing;

- B. Submit to an individualized assessment designed to evaluate RESPONDENT'S nursing practice competency and to support a targeted remediation plan;
- C. Follow all requirements within the remediation plan, if any;
- D. Successfully complete a Board-approved course in Texas nursing jurisprudence and ethics as part of the KSTAR Program; and
- E. Provide written documentation of successful completion of the KSTAR Program to the attention of Monitoring at the Board's office.

### IV. FURTHER COMPETENCY ISSUES AND VIOLATIONS

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, SHOULD RESPONDENT'S individualized KSTAR Program assessment identify further competency issues and violations of the Nursing Practice Act, including inability to practice nursing safely, further disciplinary action, up to and including revocation of RESPONDENT'S license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas, may be taken based on such results in the assessments.

## V. RESTORATION OF UNENCUMBERED LICENSE(S)

Upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order for KSTAR Program, 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 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 3 day of March, 2020.  LYNJOHNSON, RESPONDENT
Sworn to and subscribed before	me this day of, 20
SEAL	
	Notary Public in and for the State of
	Approved as to form and substantes.
	Nancy Roper Willson, Attorney for Respondent
	Signed this 3 vol day of March, 20,20

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order for KSTAR Program that was signed on the 3rd day of March, 2020, by LYN JOHNSON, Registered Nurse License Number 936582, and said Agreed Order for KSTAR Program is final.

Effective this 23rd day of April, 2020.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Executive Director on behalf

of said Board