BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of	§	AGREED ORDER
Registered Nurse License Number 752664	§	FOR
issued to GLORIA UDOKAKU NWANKWO	§	KSTAR PROGRAM
	§	

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of GLORIA UDOKAKU NWANKWO, Registered Nurse License Number 752664, 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 for KSTAR Program approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on June 23, 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, Arlington, Texas, on December 13, 2007. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 20, 2008.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

   3/2008 – 12/2015   Unknown

Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

12/2015 – 1/2017	Registered Nurse	Dallas VA Medical Center Dallas, Texas
1/2017 – 8/2017	Unknown	
8/2017 – Present	Registered Nurse	Charlton Methodist Hospital Dallas, Texas

6. At the time of the initial incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Dallas VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, and had been in that position for one (1) year and one (1) month.

7. On or about January 24, 2016, while employed by the Dallas VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent documented administration of hydromorphone and hydrocodone in the medical record of Patient Number 3905 approximately one (1) minute apart at 2035 hours for a pain level of 0/10 and 1/10; violating physician orders that the medications be used for moderate to severe pain. Additionally, Respondent did not actually administer the hydromorphone to the Patient until approximately two (2) hours after the documented administration time of 2035. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would rely on her documentation to further medicate the patient, which could result in an overdose.

8. On or about February 5, 2016, through February 6, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with the Dallas VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to reassess and document the efficacy of pain medication administered to Patient Number 3607, after the aforementioned patient was complaining of chest pain. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient from a delay in treatment of unresolved pain.

9. On or about February 10, 2016, through February 11, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with the VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to document administration of a Heparin infusion for Patient Number 2922. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information on which to base their care decisions.

10. On or about February 12, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with the VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to administer Calcium Gluconate and Insulin as per physician order to Patient Number 4430. Respondent's conduct exposed the patient to a risk of harm in that failure to timely administer medications as ordered by the physician could have resulted in non-efficacious treatment of the patient's elevated potassium level.

11. On or about February 12, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with the VA Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Respondent failed to document assessment of the groin site and pedal pulses of Patient Number 4070 status post Cardiac Ablation. Respondent's conduct resulted in an incomplete medical record and was likely to injure the patient in that subsequent care givers would not have accurate and complete information on which to base their care decisions.

12. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she did not fail to scan or administer any medication and the other nurses were trying to cause her trouble. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Eight (8), Respondent states she always assesses and reassess patients after administration of pain medication. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Nine (9), Respondent states she did not fail to administer the Heparin. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent states she did not fail to administer the Calcium Gluconate and Insulin as per physician orders to the patient. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Ten (10), Respondent states she did not fail to assess the groin site of pedal pulses of the patient.

13. Formal Charges were filed on December 18, 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)(C),(1)(D),(M)&(3)(A) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §217.12 (1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(C)&(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 752664, heretofore issued to GLORIA UDOKAKU NWANKWO.

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" as applicable and RESPONDENT may not work outside the State of Texas in another nurse licensure compact party state using a Texas compact license.

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 __23rd__ day of ___June___ , 20 _20_ .

GLORIA UDOKAKU NWANKWO, 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 substance.

Marc Meyer, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this __23rd__ day of ___June___ , 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 23rd day of June, 2020 by GLORIA UDOKAKU NWANKWO, Registered Nurse License Number 752664, and said Agreed Order for KSTAR Program is final.

Effective this 23rd day of July, 2020.

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