

BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of \$ REINSTATEMENT Registered Nurse License Number 775009 \$ AGREED ORDER & Vocational Nurse License Number 167261 \$ issued to MICHELLE WILLIAMS \$

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the Petition for Reinstatement, hereinafter referred to as the Petition, of Registered Nurse License Number 775009, and Vocational Nurse License Number 167261, held by MICHELLE WILLIAMS, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner.

Petitioner waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Reinstatement Agreed Order approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on August 6, 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 Petitioner and Petitioner was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license(s).
- 2. Petitioner waived notice and hearing, and agreed to the entry of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 3. Petitioner received a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas, on February 20, 1998. Petitioner received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas, on May 1, 2001. Petitioner was licensed to practice vocational nursing in the State of Texas on April 22, 1998. Petitioner was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on September 8, 2009.
- 4. Petitioner's nursing employment history includes:

4/1998 - 2005

Unknown

Petitioner's nursing employment history continued:

2005	LVN/RN	Wadley Regional Texarkana, Texas
2016	RN	Longview Regional Longview, Texas
2017 – 06/2017	RN	TruStaff Cincinnati, Ohio
06/2017 – Present		Not employed in nursing

- 5. On or about June 13, 2017, Petitioner's licenses to practice nursing in the State of Texas were Revoked through an Order of the Board. A copy of the June 13, 2017, Order is attached and incorporated herein by reference as part of this Reinstatement Agreed Order.
- 6. On or about August 7, 2020, Petitioner submitted a Petition for Reinstatement of License to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- 7. Petitioner presented the following in support of said petition:
 - A. Evidence of negative random drug screening dated between July 2019 through July 2020.
 - B. Evidence of support group meetings attended between July 2019 through July 2020.
 - C. Letter of support dated April 21, 2020, from Meahnca Reed, Recovery Coach Specialist, Billy Gregory Detox, stating Petitioner successfully completed Billy Gregory Detox on June 24, 2019, and Residential Treatment on July 23, 2019. Petitioner is currently enrolled in Peer Services and has continued to work diligently on her recovery.
 - D. Letter of support dated May 15, 2020, from Tyler Benson, DO, JPS Health Network, stating Petitioner was seen and treated on May 15, 2020 and based on his evaluation, Petitioner lacks significant chronic medical problems that would impair duties as a registered nurse and is fit to return to work from a physical/medical standpoint that would typically be required by a registered nurse.
 - E. Letter of support dated May 18, 2020, from Celestine Leavingston, Unity Recovery, stating she and Petitioner has been working together since March 2020. Petitioner has made all appointments on time, and has made great progress on her recovery journey. She is willing to do what is necessary to continue to grow.
 - F. Documentation of the required continuing education contact hours.

- 8. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's past behavior in light of the factors set out in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.27 and determined that Petitioner currently demonstrates the criteria required for relicensure.
- 9. The Executive Director considered evidence of Petitioner's substance use disorder, and subsequent rehabilitation as provided in 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 and in accordance with 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33.
- 10. Relicensure of Petitioner poses no direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public provided Petitioner complies with the stipulations outlined in this Order.
- 11. The Executive Director's review of Petitioner's eligibility for relicensure has been made on the basis of Petitioner's disclosures.
- 12. Petitioner'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. This reinstatement is made pursuant to Sections 301.453(c) and 301.467, Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.26.
- 3. The Board may relicense an individual upon evaluation of the factors in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.27, and pursuant to 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.33, if the Board is satisfied that the individual is able to consistently conform her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice.
- 4. The Board may license an individual who has a history of substance use disorder after consideration of the criteria set out in 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §213.29 if the Board determines the individual does not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.
- 5. 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.
- 6. This Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of Petitioner's disclosures. Any subsequently discovered discrepancies will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of Petitioner's license(s).

7. 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. REINSTATEMENT OF LICENSURE AND APPLICABILITY

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED and ORDERED, subject to ratification by the Texas Board of Nursing, that the petition of MICHELLE WILLIAMS for reinstatement of license to practice nursing in the State of Texas be **GRANTED** and Registered Nurse License Number 775009, and Vocational Nurse License Number 167261 is/are hereby **REINSTATED** in accordance with the terms of this Order.

- A. PETITIONER SHALL pay all re-registration fees, if applicable, and PETITIONER'S licensure status in the State of Texas will be updated to reflect the applicable conditions outlined herein.
- B. Until successfully completed, this Order SHALL apply to any and all future licenses issued to PETITIONER to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- C. Until successfully completed, this Order SHALL be applicable to PETITIONER'S nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.
- D. As a result of this Order, PETITIONER'S license(s) will be designated "single state" as applicable and PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER 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 Reinstatement Agreed Order.

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III. PEER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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

- A. Within forty-five (45) days following the date of relicensure, PETITIONER SHALL apply to TPAPN.
- B. Within ninety (90) days following the date of relicensure, PETITIONER 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, PETITIONER SHALL <u>waive confidentiality</u> and provide a copy of the executed TPAPN participation agreement to the Texas Board of Nursing.
- D. PETITIONER SHALL <u>comply</u> with all <u>requirements</u> of the <u>TPAPN</u> <u>participation agreement</u> during its term and SHALL keep all applicable license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas in current status.
- E. PETITIONER SHALL CAUSE the TPAPN to <u>notify the Texas Board of Nursing of any violation of the TPAPN participation agreement</u>.

IV. REMEDIAL EDUCATION COURSE(S)

In addition to any continuing education requirements the Board may require for licensure renewal, PETITIONER SHALL successfully complete the following remedial education course(s) within one (1) year of relicensure, 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.

In order to receive credit for completion of this/these course(s), PETITIONER 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. PETITIONER 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.

V. EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE

SHOULD PETITIONER 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 PETITIONER'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 Reinstatement Agreed Order, all encumbrances will be removed from PETITIONER'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, PETITIONER may be eligible for nurse licensure compact privileges, if any.

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PETITIONER'S CERTIFICATION

I understand this Order is conditioned upon the accuracy and completeness of my petition and disclosures. I further understand that subsequently discovered discrepancies in my petition and/or disclosures will result in investigation and possible disciplinary action, up to revocation of my license(s).

I have reviewed this Order. I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order, and any conditions of said Order.

I do acknowledge possessing a diagnosis that deems me eligible to participate in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses. I waive judicial review of this Order. I understand that this Order is subject to ratification by the Board. When this Order is ratified, the terms of this Order become effective, and a copy will be mailed to me. I agree to inform the Board of any other fact or event that could constitute a ground for denial of licensure prior to reinstating my license(s) to practice nursing in the state of Texas. 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 REVOCATION of my license(s) and/or nurse licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas, as a consequence of my noncompliance.

Signed this _____ day of Sept.____, 2020

MICHELLE WILLIAMS, PETITIONER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this of day of Sept, 20 20.

SFA HAVI DESAI

Notary ID #131854206

My Commission Expires

January 14, 2023

Notary Public in and for the State of Texcs

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Reinstatement Agreed Order that was signed on the _1st_ day of _September_, 20_20_, by MICHELLE WILLIAMS, Registered Nurse License Number 775009, and Vocational Nurse License Number 167261, and said Reinstatement Agreed Order is final.

Effective this _4th_ day of _September_, 20_20_.

Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

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Executive Director on behalf

of said Board

IN THE MATTER OF PERMANENT PERMANENT REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE NUMBER 775009 & PERMANENT VOCATIONAL NURSE LICENSE NUMBER 167261 ISSUED TO MICHELLE WILLIAMS, RESPONDENT

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999999	BEFORE THE TEXAS
	BOARD OF NURSING
	ELIGIBILITY AND
9 9	DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
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ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: MICHELLE WILLIAMS
2504 RIDGMAR BLVD APT 14
FORT WORTH, TX 76116

During open meeting held in Austin, Texas, on June 13, 2017, the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter "Committee") heard the above-styled case, based on the failure of the Respondent to appear as required by 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action has been provided to Respondent in accordance with Texas Government Code § 2001.054(c) and Respondent has been given an opportunity to show compliance with all the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301 of the Texas Occupations Code, for retention of Respondent's license(s) to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

The Committee finds that the Formal Charges were properly initiated and filed in accordance with section 301.458, Texas Occupations Code.

The Committee finds that after proper and timely Notice regarding the violations alleged in the Formal Charges was given to Respondent in this matter, Respondent has failed to appear in accordance with 22 Tex. ADMIN. Code Ch. 213.

The Committee finds that the Board is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Committee, after review and due consideration, adopts the proposed findings of fact and

conclusions of law as stated in the Formal Charges which are attached hereto and incorporated by

reference for all purposes and the Staff's recommended sanction of revocation by default. This Order

will be properly served on all parties and all parties will be given an opportunity to file a motion for

rehearing [22 TEX. ADMIN.CODE § 213.16(j)]. All parties have a right to judicial review of this

Order.

All proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by any party not specifically adopted

herein are hereby denied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Permanent Registered Nurse License Number

775009 and Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 167261, previously issued to MICHELLE

WILLIAMS, to practice nursing in the State of Texas be, and the same are hereby, REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order SHALL be applicable to Respondent's nurse

licensure compact privileges, if any, to practice nursing in the State of Texas.

Entered this 13th day of June, 2017.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

BY:

KATHERINE A. THOMAS, MN, RN, FAAN

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

Attachment:

Formal Charge filed on March 30, 2017.

d17r(RN-LVN)(2016.05.11)

Re: Permanent Registered Nurse License Number 775009 & Permanent Vocational Nurse License Number 167261 Issued to MICHELLE WILLIAMS DEFAULT ORDER - REVOKE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the	Hay of_	Inne	, 2017, a true and correct
copy of the foregoing DEFAULT OF	RDER was	served and ad	dressed to the following person(s), as
follows:			
Via USPS Certified Mail, Return Re MICHELLE WILLIAMS 2504 RIDGMAR BLVD AP FORT WORTH, TX 76116	-	ested	
BY:	KATHER	INE A. THO	MAS, MN, RN, FAAN OR ON BEHALF OF SAID BOARD

In the Matter of \$ BEFORE THE TEXAS
Permanent Registered Nurse \$
License Number 775009 & \$
Permanent Vocational Nurse \$
License Number 167261 \$
Issued to MICHELLE WILLIAMS, \$
Respondent \$ BOARD OF NURSING

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Section 301.452(b), Texas Occupations Code. Respondent, MICHELLE WILLIAMS, is a Registered Nurse holding License Number 775009, which is in current status at the time of this pleading, and is a Vocational Nurse holding License Number 167261, which is in delinquent status at the time of this pleading.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant adverse licensure action was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law for retention of the license prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about May 3, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Regency Hospital of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent failed to notify the appropriate supervisor when she left said facility to go to Whataburger and an automated teller machine (ATM), but failed to return to the facility for the remainder of her shift. Respondent's conduct exposed patients to unnecessary risk of harm in that leaving the nursing assignment could have resulted in patients not getting the care needed.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(10)&(13), Texas Occupations Code, and is a violation of 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.11(1)(A),(1)(B)&(1)(I), and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(4)&(12).

CHARGE II.

On or about May 5, 2016, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Regency Hospital of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, Texas, Respondent engaged in the intemperate use of Amphetamines and Methamphetamine in that she produced a specimen for a urine drug screen which resulted positive for Amphetamines and Methamphetamine. Unlawful possession of Amphetamines and Methamphetamine is prohibited by Chapter 481 (Controlled Substances Act) of the Texas Health & Safety Code. The use of Amphetamines and Methamphetamine by a Nurse, while subject to call or duty, could impair the nurse's ability to recognize subtle signs, symptoms, or changes in a patient's condition, and could impair the nurse's ability to make rational, accurate, and appropriate assessments, judgments, and decisions regarding patient care, thereby placing a patient in potential danger.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 301.452(b)(9)&(10), Texas Occupations Code and 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §217.12(1)(A),(1)(B),(1)(E),(4),(5),(10)(A),(10)(D)&(11)(B).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that staff will present evidence in support of the recommended disposition of up to, and including, revocation of Respondent's license/s to practice nursing in the State of Texas pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act, Chapter 301, Texas Occupations Code and the Board's rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 213.27 - 213.33. Additionally, staff will seek to impose on Respondent the administrative costs of the proceeding pursuant to Section 301.461, Texas Occupations Code. The cost of proceedings shall include, but is not limited to, the cost paid by the Board to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and the Office of the Attorney General or other Board counsel for legal and investigative services, the cost of a court reporter and witnesses, reproduction of records, Board staff time, travel, and expenses. These shall be in an amount of at least one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1200.00).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at the Board's website, <u>www.bon.texas.gov</u>.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that to the extent applicable, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on adopted Disciplinary Sanction Policies on adopted policies related to Substance Use Disorders and Other Alcohol and Drug Related Conduct which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

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NOTICE IS GIVEN that, based on the Formal Charges, the Board will rely on the Disciplinary Matrix, located at 22 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §213.33(b), which can be found under the "Discipline & Complaints; Board Policies & Guidelines" section of the Board's website, www.bon.texas.gov.

Filed this 28 day of March 2017.

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

James W. Johnston, General Counsel Board Certified - Administrative Law Texas Board of Legal Specialization

State Bar No. 10838300

Jena Abel, Assistant General Counsel

Board Certified - Administrative Law

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