



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

In the Matter of § AGREED ORDER
Registered Nurse License Number 870488 § FOR
issued to MELANIE WILLIAMS COOPER § KSTAR PROGRAM
§

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of MELANIE WILLIAMS COOPER, Registered Nurse License Number 870488, 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 April 1, 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 Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, on December 1, 2014. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on January 20, 2015.

5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

1/2015 – 8/2017	Registered Nurse	UT Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, Texas
8/2017 - Present	Registered Nurse	Denton Independent School District Denton, Texas

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Denton Independent School District, Denton, Texas, and had been in that position for two (2) years.
7. On or about August 14, 2019, through August 19, 2019, while employed as a Registered Nurse with the Denton Independent School District (DISD), Denton, Texas, and assigned to Providence Elementary School, Denton, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately document in the medical record the correct dosage of Risperidone to be administered to Student K.H. Subsequently, Respondent administered Risperidone to the student in excess of the prescribed amounts. Respondent's conduct created an inaccurate medical record and exposed the student to an increased risk of harm from adverse effects of Risperidone, including possible headache, dizziness, tremors, and/or uncontrollable muscle movements.
8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states she incorrectly read the prescription label and documented the student was to receive two (2) tablets of Risperidone at lunch instead of one (1) tablet. Respondent also states the medication was incorrectly administered over four (4) days before Respondent discovered the error. Respondent further states the error was then promptly reported to school administration and the parent, and a medication error report completed.

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).
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 870488, heretofore issued to MELANIE WILLIAMS COOPER.
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

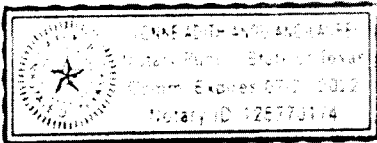
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I have reviewed this Order. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) alleged herein. By my signature on this Order, I agree to the entry of this Order, and any conditions of said Order, to avoid further disciplinary action 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 19 day of August, 2020.

Melanie Williams Cooper
MELANIE WILLIAMS COOPER, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19 day of August, 2020.

SEAL



Denise A. Archuleta - Paul

Notary Public in and for the State of TX


Approved as to form and substance.

Deborah Goodall
Deborah Goodall, Attorney for Respondent

Signed this 19th day of August, 2020.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order for KSTAR Program that was signed on the 19th day of August, 2020, by MELANIE WILLIAMS COOPER, Registered Nurse License Number 870488, and said Agreed Order for KSTAR Program is final.

Effective this 8th day of September, 2020.


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