



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
Registered Nurse License Number 246593
issued to LUCIA L. FLORES

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AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the Board, considered the matter of LUCIA L. FLORES, Registered Nurse License Number 246593, 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 approved by Katherine A. Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, on July 2, 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.
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 Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, Texas, on May 1, 1978. Respondent was licensed to practice professional nursing in the State of Texas on March 28, 1979.
5. Respondent's nursing employment history includes:

3/1979 – 7/1981	Registered Nurse	Edinburg General Hospital Edinburg, Texas
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Respondent's nursing employment history continued:

8/1981 – 8/1982	Unknown	
9/1982 – 9/1984	Registered Nurse	Rio Grande Regional McAllen, Texas
1983 - 1985	Registered Nurse	Dr. Jetta Brown Unknown
10/1984 – 12/2000	Registered Nurse	Valley Baptist Medical Center Harlingen, Texas
1/2000 – 6/2002	Registered Nurse	McAllen Medical Center McAllen, Texas
7/1/2002 – 9/2004	Registered Nurse	Harlingen Medical Center Harlingen, Texas
10/2004 – 9/2012	Registered Nurse	Doctor's Hospital Renaissance Edinburg, Texas
10/2012 – 11/2012	Unknown	
12/2012 – 5/2019	Registered Nurse	Ascension Seton Hays Kyle, Texas
6/2019 - Present	Unknown	

6. At the time of the incident, Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse with Ascension Seton Hays, Kyle, Texas, and had been in that position for six (6) years and five (5) months.
7. On or about May 14, 2019, while employed as a Registered Nurse with Ascension Seton Hays, Kyle, Texas, Respondent failed to accurately document the administration of medication to Patient MRN 7524680, including documentation of the administration of gabapentin at 10:12 when the patient requested to take the medication later with food; and documentation of famotidine at 10:12, despite having returned the medication to the dispensing system at 09:48. Respondent's conduct resulted in an inaccurate medical record and unnecessarily exposed the patient to the risk of harm in that subsequent caregivers did not have accurate information on which to base their decisions for further care.

8. In response to the incident in Finding of Fact Number Seven (7), Respondent states that Patient MRN 7524680 had been an overnight admission who had been placed NPO (nothing by mouth) on admission, pending possible further diagnostic testing. Respondent states that she updated the patient on the latest plan of care, which included removing the NPO order, so that she could order breakfast and Respondent could administer her oral medications. Respondent states that the patient agreed to take her medications, proceeded to order her breakfast, and Respondent started the process to administer the medications that the patient had agreed to take. Respondent states that she scanned each medication, took them out of their original packaging, and placed them into a medication cup. Respondent states that the patient then proceeded to take her medications, but when she got down to the last of the pills, she stated she wanted to wait until she had eaten something to take the rest of the medication. Respondent states that the patient requested the remaining pills be left with her and she would take them after her breakfast had arrived. Respondent states that she explained that she was unable to leave the medications unattended at the patient's bedside and had to witness the patient taking them, but Respondent would be able to place them back into a medicine cup, place the cup in a sealable plastic bag with the patient's name on it, to bring back when the patient was ready. Respondent states the patient agreed she would call and let Respondent know when she was ready for the rest of her medications. Respondent states that a few minutes later the unit director approached her outside the patient's room to ask if the patient was appropriate for patient satisfaction questions. Respondent states that the unit director then approached Respondent again, as she left the room, and informed Respondent that the patient was asking for her medication. Respondent explained she had the medications ready and Respondent proceeded to get them and go into the room to give them.

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)(D).
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 246593, heretofore issued to LUCIA L. FLORES.
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 **REMEDIAL EDUCATION** 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.

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. **A Board-approved course in nursing documentation** that shall be a minimum of six (6) hours in length. The course's content shall include: nursing standards related to accurate and complete documentation; legal guidelines for recording; methods and processes of recording; methods of alternative record-keeping; and computerized documentation. Home study courses and video programs will not be approved.
- C. **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.*

V. **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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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 becomes effective upon acceptance by the Executive Director on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing and a copy will be mailed to me. 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 28 day of December, 2020.

Lucia L. Flores

LUCIA L. FLORES, RESPONDENT

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28 day of December, 2020.

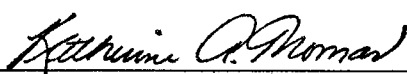
SEAL



Jessica Pruneda-Razo
Notary Public in and for the State of TX

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Executive Director, on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing does hereby ratify and adopt the Agreed Order that was signed on the 28th day of December, 2020, by LUCIA L. FLORES, Registered Nurse License Number 246593, and said Agreed Order is final.

Effective this 30th day of December, 2020.



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